

CIA DOCUMENTS CONCERNING THE DEATH OF DR. FRANK OLSON

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Released to the Public by the Olson Family
on January 11, 1976

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(52)	From: Charles W. Kane, Dir of Security	
	Subj: Alleged Illegal Domestic Activities	
	(Project ARTICHOKE)	
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	Subj: Project ARTICHOKE	
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(53)	Memorandum For OGC	14 Feb 75
	From: Inspector General	
	Subj: Behavioral Drugs & Testing	
(54)	Memo For DDA	11 Jul 75
	From: Charles W. Kane	
	Subj: Alleged Illegal Domestic Activities	
	(Suicide of Frank R. Olson)	

SECRET

RETYPE FOR CLARITY

(1)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CASE FILE X-866287

Mr. C. R. Middleton informed the undersigned by telephone on this date that the decedent following the injury in Frederick, Md., was sent to New York City for treatment authorized by the employing Agency.

M. A. Stevenson
1/5/53

X-866287

Memorandum for THE CASE FILE X-866287.

C. R. Middleton

Mr. C. R. Middleton informed the undersigned by telephone on this date that the accident following the injury in Frederick, Md., was sent to New York City for treatment authorized by the employing Agency.

M. A. Stevenson

M. A. Stevenson

4/5/53

written prior to Frank's death; after Vin returned on Thanksgiving;
this is likely the "classified illness" referred to in the Etkin Detrick
security report

EMPLOYEE'S NOTICE OF INJURY OR OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE

Federal Employees' Compensation Act

This notice should be submitted to the immediate superior by an injured civil employee of the Federal Government, or by someone on his behalf, within 48 hours after the injury. Notice may be given either personally or by mail. It should be retained by the official superior unless the injury causes disability for work beyond the day or shift when injury occurred, or results in any charge against the Bureau for medical expense, when it should be forwarded to the U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, Bureau of Employees' Compensation, together with the official superior's report of injury, Form C. A. 2. Before compensation is paid, written claim on Form C. A. 4 must be submitted to the Bureau.

Date of this notice 27 November, 1953

1. I hereby certify that I am employed as a Supervisory Biochemist
(Occupation)
at the SO Division, C-10 Biological Laboratories
(Place of employment)
and on Friday, 27 November, 1953, at 11:00 a. m.
(Day or week) (Date) (Hour, a. m., or p. m.)
I was injured in the performance of my duties at Calverton, Maryland
(Location where injury occurred)

2. Cause of injury Classified Illness
(How and why injury occurred)

3. Nature of injury Classified Illness
(Name part of body affected—fractured left leg, bruised right thumb, etc.)

4. Names of witnesses to injury Lt. Col. V. L. Ruwet
(Name)

5. If this notice was not given within 48 hours after the injury, explain reason for delay and state name of person to whom notice was first given, and when

Reason for delay: Injury sustained at home 10/16/53, while traveling, 24 November, although I was not notified, until 24 November, 1953, when I was informed by Dr. Olson, who was in the hospital, that I had been injured. I was then in the hospital, and I was not able to go to work. I was then in the hospital, and I was not able to go to work. I was then in the hospital, and I was not able to go to work.

This injury was not caused by my willful misconduct, intention to bring about the injury or death of myself or of another, nor by my intoxication, and I hereby make claim for compensation and medical treatment to which I may be entitled by reason of the injury sustained by me.

ABOVE TEXT: 20-21-22-23 November

Name Lt. Col. V. L. Ruwet
Frank E. Olson
Address R.F.D. 2, Frederick, Maryland
(Street and number)

WESTERN
UNION

ET WUK025 PD

CAMP DETRICK MD NOV 28 117PM

DIRECTOR BUREAU OF EMPLOYEES COMPENSATION DEPT. OF LABOR

DOCTOR FRANK R OLSON EMPLOYEE OF CAMP DETRICK DIED

245 AM 28 NOVEMBER 1953 DEATH APPARENTLY SERVICE

CONNECTED DETAILS FOLLOW

JOHN E THOMPSON CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

855A

U. S. L
Nov 30
WASHINGTON

WESTERN
UNION

28 November 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD:

EYES ONLY

SUBJECT: Suicide of Frank OLSEN,
Army Civilian Employee, Camp Dietrich.

1. I was called by telephone at 5:00 A.M. this date by a CIA Officer and asked to meet with him, Dr. Gibbons and Dr. Sidney Gottlieb in the latter's office in Quarters Eye. I arrived there about 5:40 and was told the following story:
2. Mr. Robert V. Lashbrook, a TSS employee, had been in New York City on two occasions during the last week accompanying Subject, who was taking psychiatric treatment from a Dr. Abramson. Olsen is a civilian employee of the Chemical Corps at Camp Dietrich. The arrangements for Olsen to proceed to New York were made by Colonel Vincent Ruethe (sp.), the officer in charge of Special Operations at Camp Dietrich, and at the suggestion of Dr. Gottlieb. The latter stated that he suggested Dr. Abramson due to the fact that the latter is a cleared consultant of both this Agency and the Chemical Corps, and that the sensitive nature of Olsen's work, part of which he was performing for TSS, made this appear desirable.
3. Dr. Gibbons stated that Olsen had been treated five or six times during the last week by Dr. Abramson. Olsen and Lashbrook returned to the Washington area for Thanksgiving but went back to New York City for further consultation with Abramson. Yesterday, Abramson decided that Olsen should be placed in a sanitarium for treatment for a period and apparently arrangements were made with a sanitarium near Rockville, called Chestnut Hill. Gottlieb reported that Subject had stated he was willing to take this treatment.
4. Last night, Lashbrook and Olsen had a room at the Statler Hotel. At 2:30 A.M. Lashbrook was awakened by a crash, awoke and found that someone had dived through the window, blind, glass and all. Olsen was missing from the room.
5. It appears that Lashbrook called Gottlieb before he called the desk. He then called the desk and police from the 14th Precinct arrived shortly. Lashbrook told the police of the employment of Olsen by Army. He told them that he, Lashbrook, was a Government employee who had been associated with Olsen. Lashbrook had an AGO card and also a CIA badge

on his person. Police made notes of identifying data on both Lashbrook and the body.

6. When I arrived in Gottlieb's office, he was talking to Lashbrook, who had called from a pay station in the Statler. I told Gottlieb to tell Lashbrook to take another room at Statler and await later phone call from us.

7. I questioned Dr. Gibbons and Dr. Gottlieb at some length on certain matters which had occurred prior to this incident and which will follow later in this memorandum.

8. I then told Gottlieb to call Lashbrook at his room, which turned out to be Room 488 and to tell him a Special Agent of the Department of Defense would call on him at 8:00 A.M. to assist and follow any future dealings or interviews with the police. I then sent word of the incident to the agent and made the necessary arrangements with him.

EVENTS OCCURRING PRIOR TO THE SUICIDE:

9. In my questioning of Drs. Gibbons and Gottlieb, they related the following events which preceded this incident.

10. It appears that on Wednesday and on Thursday, November 18th and 19th, a group of persons from Camp Dietrich and from TSS assembled at a cabin (two-story log house) at Deer Creek Lake. Gottlieb stated there were seven men from the "Special Operations" of Camp Dietrich and three men from TSS. The latter were Gottlieb, Lashbrook and Hughes of TSS. Gibbons stated that the TSS liaison and connection with the "Special Operations" had been kept "EYES ONLY" to a very few persons both in CIA and at Dietrich. He said it was known to Generals Bullene and Creary of the Chemical Corps. It appears that the purpose of this liaison and connection was to discuss and work on matters of mutual interest in the sensitive and covert fields. Gottlieb said the Dietrich group had meetings once or twice a year at the log-house referred to above.

11. In any event, it appears that the entire group had assembled at Deer Creek Lake by Thursday. On Thursday evening, it was decided to experiment with the drug LSD, and for the members present to administer the drug to themselves to ascertain the effect a clandestine application would have on a meeting or conference. Gottlieb stated a "very small dose" of LSD was placed in a bottle of cointreau and that all present except two of the persons had a drink thereof. This included Gottlieb and the Commanding Officer of Special Operations, Colonel Vinson Ruetz (sp?). Olsen also was included in the group.

Note (by Kairys and Rudovsky): the final page to this document is document 59.

(59)

12. Gottlieb reported that the drug had a definite effect on the group to the point that they were boisterous and "laughing" and they could not continue the meeting or engage in sensible conversations. Gottlieb asserts that the meeting broke up about 1:00 A.M. Friday morning. He stated that Olsen among others complained of wakefulness during the night. Gottlieb stated he drove home Friday morning as did Olsen.

13. On Tuesday, 24 November, it appears that Colonel Ruette called Gottlieb and stated that Olsen appeared mentally depressed and evidently expressed some concern about him. Gottlieb then suggested that Lashbrook take Olsen up to New York City to be treated by Dr. Abramson. From that point, there were the series of psychiatric treatments and plan to hospitalize Olsen as narrated above.

14. When I arrived, Gottlieb had already communicated with Dr. Abramson. Gottlieb told me that Abramson said that Olsen's condition was one that existed prior to the events of 18 and 19 November. It should be recorded that Dr. Abramson has been experimenting with LSD on behalf of TSS. Gottlieb reiterated many times that outside of the boisterous effect and the inability to think properly, LSD has no harmful or permanently injurious effects.

Shirley Edwards
Director of Security

Note (by Cairns and Rudovsky): This is the final page of document ④.

5

STATEMENT BY DR. HAROLD ABRAMSON, MADE SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1953

(Note: The dates and approximate times of visits to Dr. Abramson are added here to clarify Dr. Abramson's following statement.

Tuesday, November 24

- (a) With patient and two friends, in New York office, about 4:45 to 5:00 P.M.
- (b) With patient alone, in New York office, about 5:00 to 6:00 P.M.
- (c) With patient and two friends, in hotel room, about 10:00 to 11:00 P.M.

Wednesday, November 25

With patient alone, in New York office, about 4:00 to 5:00.

Thursday, November 26

- (a) With patient alone, in Huntington, Long Island, office, about 4:00 to 5:00 P.M.
- (b) With patient and friend, in Huntington office, about 5:00 to 5:20 P.M.

Friday, November 27

With patient and friend, in New York office, about 9:30 A.M. to 12:00 noon, and from about 2:00 to 3:00 P.M.)

Again an attempt was made to have the patient state that he was the subject of a plot or was especially persecuted by his friends, but at no time did he speak of any but the highest regard for friends or family. He stated explicitly that he wished to go back home. I saw no way in which this could be prevented, but plans were made for further discussion.

November 26

The patient returned after an agitated trip to Washington and was seen at 4:00 P.M., Thursday, November 26. In this interview, for the first time, the patient showed that he had delusions of persecution. "I feel they were giving me dope to keep me awake." He said that for some weeks the CIA group had been putting something like benzedrine in his coffee. He pointed out he had heard voices the night before and that V's voice told me to "throw it away." (He had thrown away his wallet). His history definitely indicated he had been delusional at least for weeks, probably months, but that he had been able to operate fairly well, except in crises. It became apparent that hospitalization was required as soon as possible.

November 27

On Friday morning, November 27, the patient and a friend and the writer discussed in some detail the desirability of hospital treatment, to which the patient had finally agreed. He thought he would like to be near home, and for this reason a mental institution near Washington was chosen and a room reserved. The hospital could not take the patient that day, and arrangements were made for hospitalization the next day.

Conclusion

The patient has been, according to his own story, delusional for a long period of time, but operating well in his day by day work. His inordinate guilt feelings, as expressed to me, were specifically related to his pension and disability pay. For this he felt he had to be punished. He himself dated his difficulties to the time when he was retired. It was then that he recalls his extraordinary guilt feelings began, becoming progressively worse, with the specific delusional events occurring during the preceding months.

1 December 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Inspector General

SUBJECT: Use of LSD

1. Pursuant to your request, Dr. Willis Gibbons, Chief, TSS, was contacted on the evening of 30 November 1953 concerning points hereinafter noted.

2. Dr. Gibbons has impounded all LSD material in CIA Headquarters in a safe adjacent to his desk. No one else has the combination to this safe; the material was so impounded on 29 November 1953.

3. Dr. Gibbons stated that he is stopping any LSD tests which may have been instituted or contemplated under CIA auspices. A cable will be sent to the field on 1 December 1953 to this effect.

4. Only two (2) field stations, Manila and Atsugi, have LSD material. There is none in Germany although Mr. William Harvey recently expressed interest in the subject. A cable to the field on 1 December 1953 will instruct the field as to non-use and request data as to how much is on hand and who has custody and access.

5. CIA has furnished a limited quantity of LSD to Mr. George White, Chief of New York District, Narcotics Division, Treasury Department. Dr. Gibbons does not now know the exact amount in Mr. White's possession. White is fully cleared according to Dr. Gibbons.

6. In summary, LSD material over which CIA has or had distributive responsibility is located in four places: (a) Dr. Gibbons' safe, (b) Manila, (c) Atsugi, and (d) that in possession of George White. Exact amounts in each location are not yet available.

7. There are several "grants in aid" units and individuals in the United States doing research with LSD. None of these received

material from CIA; some know of the CIA interest and furnish reports to CIA. Only volunteers are used. While some of the work is done with knowledge of CIA interest, it does not appear to be done under the auspices of CIA.

8. Dr. Gibbons said there is very little or no correspondence, either internal or external on the subject, but that he would collect such as existed for the Inspector General.

9. Dr. Gibbons was also asked to collect and have carried to the Inspector General all reports on the use and effects of LSD. He thought by this definition he would have a drawer full of papers.

10. Dr. Gibbons was asked to prepare a list of known clinical grants in aid units and individuals in this country engaged in LSD research. It appears that Dr. Abramson has experimented with this drug.

11. Dr. Gibbons was not clear as to the mechanics of CIA acquisition of LSD but said he would get the answers. The material is not under Federal U.S. Governmental control to the best of his knowledge. It is an experimental drug, and as such, is not allowed to be sold in this country. Most LSD obtained by CIA comes from the Eli Lilly Company with head offices in Indianapolis, Indiana. Dr. Gibbons thought some might have been obtained from other parties but he was not certain. The Eli Lilly Company apparently makes a gift of it to CIA. Dr. Gibbons was not certain whether the company brought it here, to a cut-out arrangement, or whether it is picked up in Indianapolis. The manner of receipting for the material is not clear.

12. Answers to the questions asked by the Inspector General which are not given by the above are being obtained by Dr. Gibbons and will be furnished as soon as he is able to get them to this Staff.

Chief, Inspection and Review

Distribution:

Orig. & 1: addressee

1: I&R Subject file

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

1 December 1953

①
SUBJECT: Conversation with Chief of TSS re Olsen Case

1. All LSD is in Chief's safe for which he only has combination.
2. Preparing cables to field to find out who has custody and access. Issuance done only with Chief's concurrence and use only with DD/P approval. Senior military officer wanted work broadened to include biological as well as chemical.
5. Acquisition. Not classified as narcotic--organic chemical. Don't purchase it--because an experimental can't be sold in U.S. Has been doled out by a foreign company. With one exception LSD has been given to us. An American company has given us some.
6. Correspondence and memorandum. Don't believe any reports addressed to Agency. DD/P has one memo on subject.
8. CIA officer has discussed use of something of this type with experts from Camp Dietrich and they had all agreed that an unwitting experiment would be desirable. The LSD was given to all of the ten at the camp except one (who doesn't drink) and one other who has a heart condition, both of Camp Dietrich. About 20 minutes after giving the dose the CIA officer told them what they had been given. They all agreed that it was an interesting experiment and there was no adverse comment. Only after Olsen committed suicide was there any reaction adversely to the experiment itself.
9. According to Chief TSS, Olsen has a history of mental disturbances. Last summer he apparently told his wife that he was upset and she suggested he see a doctor. He objected to being made division chief because of a fear he couldn't do the job, and after receiving the job shortly thereafter asked to be relieved. On the Monday following the experiment he told his Army chief that he expected to be fired or asked to resign. He then went up to New York with the TSS employee and saw the psychiatrist. After several trips between New York and Washington, the psychiatrist finally came to the conclusion that Olsen should go to a sanitarium. On Friday night, November 27, Olsen at dinner with the TSS employee in New York appeared to be completely rational and discussed the time they would have to get up in the morning to get the train, etc.

EYES ONLY

Inspector General

1 December 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Dr. Willis Gibbons of TSS re Olsen Case

1. All LSD is in Gibbons' safe for which he only has combination.
2. Preparing cables to field to find out who has custody and access. Atsugi and Manila. Insurance done only with Gibbons or Bruu's concurrence and use only with DD/P approval. Bullina wanted work broadened to include biological as well as chemical.
3. Man in Bureau of Narcotics has some. Has good access to criminal types in N.Y.--George White--expert for Kefauver Commission and close friend of Halley. Now out of town. Get it from us.
4. Grants-in-aid to Dr. Harold Abramson, 123 East 50th. Dr. Robert Hyde, Boston Psychopathic Hospital. U.S. Public Service Hospital, Lexington, Kentucky (Dr. Morris Isbell). Dr. Carl Lofgren, Department of Pharmacology, University of Illinois, School of Medicine, Chicago. Lilly has been trying to make it. Another trying by radioactive to see what part of body it works on. These are top secret cleared. Get grant from a foundation we work through. In overt. Use voluntary subject. Give us reports. Should go on normally but we insure it does. Abramson is a psychiatrist and his people are abnormal. Rest are normal.
5. Acquisition. Not classified as narcotic--organic chemical. Don't purchase it--because an experimental can't be sold in U.S. For been sold out by Gratz Co. of Toledo. With one exception LTD has been given to us--Gottlieb and Lashbrook. Eli Lilly and Co. has given us some.
6. Correspondence and memoranda. Have file cabinet drawer full. Don't believe any reports addressed to Agency. DD/P has one memo on subject. Gottlieb's trip to Far East. Mentioned in reports of monthly progress--GUTMAN is pseudo.
7. Lashbrook (TSS), Hughes (RP), Gottlieb (TSS), Alfred Ulmer (SE), Harold Cooper (RP) all have had it. De Florez, Gibbons, Bruu and Roosevelt all know about it. Also Wisner, Palmes, Barnes and Scott and Field of the I & R Staff.
8. Gottlieb had discussed use of something of this type with experts from Camp Dietrich and they had all agreed that an unwitting experiment would be desirable. The LSD was given to all of the ten at the camp except Malinovsky (who doesn't drink) and one other who has a heart condition, both of Camp Dietrich. About 22 minutes after giving the dose, Gottlieb told them what they had been given. They all agreed that it was an interesting experiment and there was no adverse comment. Only after Olsen committed suicide was there any reaction adversely to the experiment itself.

9. According to Gibbons, Olson has a history of mental disturbances. Last summer he apparently told his wife that he was upset and she suggested he see a doctor. He objected to being made division chief because of a fear he couldn't do the job, and after receiving the job shortly thereafter asked to be relieved. On the Monday following the experiment he told Col. Brette that he expected to be fired or asked to resign. He then went up to New York with Lashbrook and saw Dr. Harrison. After several trips between New York and Washington, Harrison finally came to the conclusion that Olson should go to the Chestnut Hill Sanitarium. In Friday night, November 27, Olson at dinner with Lashbrook in New York appeared to be completely rational and discussed the time they would have to get up in the morning to get the train, etc.

Lyman E. Kirkpatrick
Inspector General

Retyped for clarity.

1 December 1953

8
MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Dr. Willis Gibbons of TSS re Olson Case

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2. Preparing cables to field to find out who has custody and access. Atsugi and Manila. Issuance done only with Gibbons or Drum's concurrence and use only with DD/P approval. Bulline wanted work broadened to include biological as well as chemical.
3. Man in Bureau of Narcotics has some. Has good access to criminal types in N. Y.--George White--expert for Kefauver Commission and close friend of Halley. Now out of town. Got it from us.
4. Grants-in-aid to Dr. Harold Abramson, 133 East 58th. Dr. Robert Hyde, Boston Psychopathic Hospital. U. S. Public Service Hospital, Lexington, Kentucky (Dr. Harriss Isbell). Dr. Carl Pfeiffer, Department of Pharmacology, University of Illinois, School of Medicine, Chicago. Lilly has been trying to make it. Another trying by radioactive to see what part of body it works on. These are top secret cleared. Got grant from a foundation to work through. Is overt. Use voluntary subject. Give us reports. Would go on normally but we insure it does. Abramson is a psychiatrist and his people are abnormal. Rest are normal.
5. Acquisition. Not classified as narcotic--organic chemical. Don't purchase it--because an experimental can't be sold in U. S. Has been doled out by Sandoz Co. of Basle. With one exception LSD has been given to us--Gottlieb and Lashbrook. Eli Lilly and Co. has given us some.
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9. According to Gibbons, Olson has a history of mental disturbances. Last summer he apparently told his wife that he was upset and she suggested he see a doctor. He objected to being made division chief because of a fear he couldn't do the job, and after receiving the job shortly thereafter asked to be relieved. On the Monday following the experiment he told Col. Ruette that he expected to be fired or asked to resign. He then went up to New York with Lashbrook and saw Dr. Abramson. After several trips between New York and

Washington, Abramson finally came to the conclusion that Olson should go to the Chestnut Hill Sanitarium. On Friday night, November 27, Olson at dinner with Lashbrook in New York appeared to be completely rational and discussed the time they would have to get up in the morning to get the train, etc.

Lyman B. Kirkpatrick
Inspector General

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Colonel Edwards

DATE: 2 December 1953

FROM : Chief, SSD

SUBJECT: OLSON, Franklin

Subject's death certificate, a copy (photostatic) of which has been obtained and is being forwarded, indicates his occupation as a biochemist and business where this occupation used as "U. S. Army Post". It also gives his wife's name and where they lived.

With reference to cause of death, it states death caused by multiple fractures, shock and hemorrhage; jumped or fell from 10th floor hotel. The certificate was signed by an Assistant Medical Examiner whose signature is illegible.

CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
BUREAU OF RECORDS AND STATISTICS

Borough of **MANHATTAN**, New York, N. Y.

DEC-2 1953

Below is a photostatic copy of a certificate on file in the Bureau of Records and Statistics of the Department of Health of the City of New York.

RECEIVED

JAN 10 1941

10:00 AM

RECEIVED

This is to certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a record in my custody

CARL L. ERHARDT
Director of Bureau

BY *U.S. District Court*
Borough Registrar

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Bad Xerox copy of
Certificate of Death
for Frank Olson

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Colonel Edwards

DATE: 2 December 1953

FROM : Chief, SSD

SUBJECT: ABRAMSON, Harold A.

New York State does not require a license to practice psychiatry. Their only requirement is that an individual be a physician. Subject is a physician but not known as a psychiatrist.

He has engaged in the practice of medicine since 1925. He was educated at Columbia University, receiving his M. D. in 1923. He is a National Research Council Fellow; studied in Germany at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute, physical and electrochemistry; instructor in medicine at Johns Hopkins University 1928-29; instructor in biochemistry at Harvard 1929-31; Associate in Bacteriology at Cornell 1934-35; Assistant Professor of Physiology at Columbia University since 1935; Associate Physician and Chief of Allergy Clinic, Mt. Siani Hospital, New York City (this position indicate of his high stature in medicine at Mt. Siani known as one of the best Hospitals); member of the American College of Allergies; member of American Association for Advancement of Science; member of American Academy of Allergies and American Psychosomatic Society.

A reliable source has advised that to be an authority on allergies one would have to take courses in psychosomatic sciences but this does not make one a psychiatrist.

(12)

Note (by Karpis and Rudorsky):
document 60 is a fuller
version of this document.

TRANSMITTAL SL		
(Date)		
TO: <i>Gen Counsel Mr Houston</i>		
BUILDING	ROOM NO.	
REMARKS: <i>This is Special Agents report on OLSON case. Attachment thereto is a Photostat of Death Certificate. I prefer & not to let TSS personnel see the Agents Report</i> <i>SE</i>		
FROM:		
BUILDING	ROOM NO.	EXTENSION

FORM NO. 36-8
SEP 1946

19-63208-1 GPO

Case No. 73317

3 December 1953

GENERAL:

At New York, New York

On 28 November 1953, at 7:50 a.m., ROBERT V. LASHBROOK was interviewed in Room 488, Statler Hotel, 33rd Street and Seventh Avenue.

Mr. LASHBROOK advised that the SUBJECT was a biochemist and Agency employee assigned to a project at Camp Dietrick, Frederick, Maryland. He stated that a Colonel VINCENT RUWET is Commanding Officer of the SUBJECT's group. LASHBROOK indicated that he has known the SUBJECT for about one year. He stated that the SUBJECT had been suffering from "persecution delusions and guilt feelings." He indicated that these delusions and guilt feelings were not in areas related to the SUBJECT's work. LASHBROOK stated that the SUBJECT had received a medical discharge from the military service because of ulcers and was drawing disability pay. It was the SUBJECT's feeling that he actually had no ulcers and that he therefore believed that he was cheating the government. In this connection, LASHBROOK stated that the SUBJECT would listen to no reasonable solution to his problem. He stated that Colonel RUWET had become aware of SUBJECT's condition and suggested that something be done about it. As a result, on 24 November 1953, Colonel RUWET, LASHBROOK and the SUBJECT came to New York to consult with Dr. HAROLD A. ABRAMSON who has offices at 133 East 58th Street, New York City, and who resides at 47 New Street, Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, New York. The three consulted with Dr. ABRAMSON on 24 and 25 November 1953 and on the night of 25 November all three went to the Hotel Statler with the intention of departing for Washington, D.C., at about 7:30 a.m., 26 November. At about 5:30 a.m., Colonel RUWET and LASHBROOK arose and were unable to find the SUBJECT. They proceeded to the lobby of the hotel and found SUBJECT there. The SUBJECT told them that he had been "wandering around for a while."

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He also told them that he had torn up what paper money he had and various papers in his wallet. He also indicated that he then threw the wallet away. He was unable to indicate where he had discarded the above articles. Colonel RUWET, Mr. LASHROCK and the SUBJECT returned to Washington, D.C., on the morning of the 26th. The SUBJECT's condition was such that it was considered advisable that they return to New York immediately for further consultation with Dr. AERAMSON. Colonel RUWET remained in Washington and LASHROCK and the SUBJECT returned to New York, arriving at La Guardia Airport at about 2:00 p.m. They proceeded by taxi to Dr. AERAMSON's residence, 47 New Street, Huntington, Long Island, arriving there at about 4:00 p.m. After about a one-hour consultation, LASHROCK and the SUBJECT went to the Anchorage Guest House at Cold Spring Harbor where they remained overnight. At about 8:15 a.m. on 27 November 1953, Dr. AERAMSON met LASHROCK and the SUBJECT at the Anchorage Guest House and drove them to Dr. AERAMSON's New York office at 133 East 58th Street. There was a further conference in which all three participated and it was Dr. AERAMSON's suggestion that the SUBJECT go to a hospital for treatment. LASHROCK stated that SUBJECT indicated that this was agreeable to him. Dr. AERAMSON then contacted the Chestnut Lodge at Rockville, Maryland, and made arrangements for the SUBJECT, accompanied by LASHROCK, to be there at noon on 28 November 1953. The Chestnut Lodge was decided upon after telephonic discussion between Dr. AERAMSON and Dr. GOTTLIB. LASHROCK identified Dr. GOTTLIB as Dr. SID GOTTLIB, his (LASHROCK's) supervisor. After the conference and on the afternoon of 27 November 1953, LASHROCK and the SUBJECT returned to the Hotel Statler and checked in. They watched television for a while and then went to the hotel cocktail lounge where each had two martinis. They later had dinner in the hotel's main dining room. LASHROCK stated that no other alcoholic beverages were consumed by either of them. LASHROCK stated that at this time, the SUBJECT appeared cheerful and in a considerably better mood. Shortly before 10:00 p.m., the SUBJECT telephoned his wife. He stated that the SUBJECT appeared reluctant to discuss his condition with his wife. LASHROCK added that the SUBJECT's wife had had psychiatric care early this year. At about 10:00 p.m., the SUBJECT and LASHROCK returned to their room. They had Room #1018 which contained twin beds. LASHROCK stated that shortly after 10:00 p.m. he called Colonel RUWET who agreed to meet them at the plane arrival at Washington at about 9:30 a.m., 28 November 1953. LASHROCK and the SUBJECT watched television in their room until about 11:00 p.m.

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LASHEROOK stated that the SUBJECT remarked that he felt more relaxed than he had for a long time. Both then went to bed and LASHEROOK fell asleep. LASHEROOK stated that recalling that the SUBJECT had "disappeared" the day before, he, LASHEROOK, took the bed nearest the door. LASHEROOK stated that he was unable to fix the time definitely but that about 2:30 a.m. he heard a loud crash of glass. He said that the SUBJECT had jumped through the window shade and the glass and landed on the sidewalk of Seventh Avenue, across the street from Pennsylvania Station. He repeated that his estimate of the time was not accurate and that "that time may be way off." He stated that he immediately, and before reporting to anyone else, telephonically contacted his superior, Dr. GOTTLIEB, at his home, telephone VIRMA (Virginia) 15W4, and told him what had happened. He then reported the incident to the hotel telephone operator. LASHEROOK said that immediately afterward he called Dr. ABRAMSON who "wanted to be kept out of the thing completely." Shortly afterward, some uniformed police officers and hotel employees came to his room. LASHEROOK stated that he did not obtain their names. He told the police at that time that he did not know why the SUBJECT had jumped and indicated to them that he knew the SUBJECT suffered from ulcers. The uniformed police made a search of the room and found no papers belonging to the SUBJECT, with one exception. LASHEROOK said that this was a letter to the SUBJECT from the Veterans Administration concerning a lapsed insurance policy. This was in LASHEROOK's suitcase. He explained that on Thursday night, the 26th, the SUBJECT had thrown the letter into a waste paper basket and LASHEROOK had retrieved it. While the police were in the room, Dr. ABRAMSON called back and indicated that he had changed his mind about wanting to be "left out completely," and would assist. LASHEROOK stated that no one exhibited any curiosity about this call. He stated that he observed that during the first call to Dr. ABRAMSON the doctor's voice was loud and clear. During the second call, he could not hear the doctor very well and speculated on the possibility of a tapped wire. Following a search of the room by the police, LASHEROOK was requested to go to the police station house at 138 West 30th Street to identify the body. At the station house, he was interviewed by Detectives WARD and MULLEE of the 11th Detective Squad. The detective asked him to turn out his pockets. LASHEROOK stated that among his papers there were airline tickets for the trips that he and the SUBJECT had taken within the past few days and a receipt on plain white paper for \$115.00 dated 25 November 1953 and signed by JOHN MULHOLLAND. The receipt indicated "Advance for Travel to Chicago." There was also a post card with Colonel RUWET's address appearing as follows: "Vince Ruwet, 1004 Rosemont Avenue, phone Monument 3-3169." LASHEROOK said that his papers included some hotel bills and also a paper with the

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address of the Chestnut Lodge in Rockville, Maryland. This latter paper was retained by Detectives WARD and MULLEE. Among LASHBROOK's papers examined by the detectives, there was one which contained Dr. ABRAMSON's office and home addresses and telephone numbers.

LASHBROOK stated that this information was copied by Detectives WARD and MULLEE and they asked him who G.W., M.H. and J.M. were. He indicated that he preferred not to identify them because of security reasons and the matter was pressed no further by the detectives. LASHBROOK identified G.W. to the reporting agent as another government official. He said that M.H.

LASHBROOK identified J.M. as

During the interview by the detectives, LASHBROOK stated that he told them he was employed by the Department of Defense and exhibited his AGO card for identification. He said that the police requested no details concerning his superior or office location and that he volunteered none. He gave the detectives his California home address, 1115 Montrose, South Pasadena, which is where his parents reside, and his Washington, D.C., address, Apt. 109, 1833 New Hampshire N.W. LASHBROOK stated that he told the detectives that the SUBJECT was employed at Camp Dietrick, Frederick, Maryland, that Colonel VINCENT RUWET was the person there to be notified and that the SUBJECT came to New York with the knowledge of Colonel RUWET and SUBJECT's wife. LASHBROOK stated that he gave no details of SUBJECT's employment at Camp Dietrick. He indicated to the police that he, LASHBROOK, was stationed in Washington, D.C. LASHBROOK stated that the detectives indicated that he had been somewhat uncooperative when questioned by the police in his room at the hotel. LASHBROOK said that he explained to the detectives that because of the nature of SUBJECT's illness he

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was reluctant to discuss it before so many people. He indicated to the detectives that he came to New York with the SUBJECT to see Dr. ABRAMSON and that the SUBJECT was seeing Dr. ABRAMSON because of mental illness. LASHEROOK told the detectives that he was to accompany the SUBJECT to Chestnut Lodge at Rockville, Maryland. LASHEROOK stated that the detectives then examined his wallet. The wallet contained his AGO pass, #495652, and an Army Chemical Center pass, #C750. The wallet also contained a small slip of paper with about thirty unrelated letters of the alphabet. LASHEROOK explained to the reporting agent that this was a coded safe combination. He stated that the police passed right over these papers and did not copy them. The wallet also contained Agency pass #E-244 with Serial #C1168321829. This pass indicated "If found return to Box 1925, Washington, D.C." This pass was not questioned by the detectives and not identified or explained by LASHEROOK. He indicated also that he advised the Police Department that he, LASHEROOK, shared his apartment in Washington, D.C., with EDWIN SPOEMEL. At the conclusion of the interview by the detectives, all papers were returned to LASHEROOK and they assured him that there would be no publicity emanating from the Police Department regarding the incident. They requested that between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on 28 November 1953, LASHEROOK identify SUBJECT's body at the Morgue, Bellevue Hospital, 29th Street and First Avenue, New York City. They further indicated that there would not be any further need to question him.

The interview was concluded at about 9:30 a.m. and reporting agent advised LASHEROOK that he would contact him at the Statler Hotel when LASHEROOK returned from the Bellevue Morgue.

At about 12:30 p.m., reporting agent and LASHEROOK met at the Hotel Statler. LASHEROOK advised that he had made the official identification of SUBJECT's body and that funeral arrangements would be made by Colonel RUWET or the SUBJECT's wife. Reporting agent remained with LASHEROOK until 5:00 p.m. LASHEROOK made a number of phone calls during the afternoon and other than exhibiting fatigue, appeared completely composed. He advised that pursuant to instructions received from Dr. GOTTlieb he was to meet with Dr. ABRAMSON at 9:15 p.m. on the 28th to obtain a report from Dr. ABRAMSON which he was to take to Washington.

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At 5:00 p.m., Agent WALTER P.T., Jr., met reporting agent and ROBERT LASHEROCK at Pennsylvania Station at New York City. Pursuant to instructions, Agent WALTER P.T. accompanied LASHEROCK throughout the evening and reporting agent departed. LASHEROCK indicated that he would like to take a walk and go to a movie until his 9:15 p.m. appointment. After seeing "Cease Fire" at the Criterion (14th Street and Broadway) and dinner at Mc Ginnis's Restaurant (148th Street and Broadway), LASHEROCK and Agent WALTER P.T. walked to 133 East 158th Street, New York, N. Y., arriving there at about 9:15 p.m. Upon arriving there, they proceeded to Room 310. LASHEROCK indicated that he preferred to have the agent wait in the reception room while he spoke to Dr. ABRAMSON. LASHEROCK introduced the agent to Dr. ABRAMSON without the use of the agent's name and indicated that he was a friend accompanying him in an advisory capacity. While remaining in the outer office, Agent WALTER P.T. overheard a portion of the conversation between LASHEROCK and Dr. ABRAMSON. This conversation is summarized as follows:

Upon closing the door, Dr. ABRAMSON and LASHEROCK started a discussion relating to security. Dr. ABRAMSON was heard to comment to LASHEROCK that he was worried about him. LASHEROCK then stated that he thought it would be best if he dictated to Dr. ABRAMSON. Prior to his dictation, they listened to portions of a conversation which had been recorded. Although names were not mentioned, it is believed that the recording represented an interview between a physician or psychiatrist and the SUBJECT. Following this, LASHEROCK started to dictate to Dr. ABRAMSON concerning the SUBJECT. This related to LASHEROCK's observations of SUBJECT's behaviour prior to SUBJECT's demise. LASHEROCK told Dr. ABRAMSON that SUBJECT had told him that as far back as March 1953 SUBJECT's wife had suggested that SUBJECT see a doctor because of his depressed condition. LASHEROCK further stated that it was his impression that SUBJECT had delusions and was suffering from guilt and persecution complexes. LASHEROCK mentioned that SUBJECT thought he was stealing money from the government. LASHEROCK also indicated to Dr. ABRAMSON that SUBJECT had told him that he thought the agency group was putting benzedrine in his coffee to keep him awake. Toward the close of his dictation, LASHEROCK indicated that he had had dinner at the hotel with the SUBJECT at which time the SUBJECT had said to him, "I haven't felt better for a long time." Several times during LASHEROCK's dictation, the dictation was interrupted and he and Dr. ABRAMSON listened to portions of the tape recording.

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Agent WALTER P.T. heard LASHBROOK and Dr. ABRAMSON leave the room closest to the outside office and enter another room. At this point, LASHBROOK and Dr. ABRAMSON were apparently having a drink. Dr. ABRAMSON was heard to remark to LASHBROOK that he was "worried as to whether or not the deal was in jeopardy" and that he thought "that the operation was dangerous and that the whole deal should be re-analyzed." LASHBROOK and Dr. ABRAMSON rejoined Agent WALTER P.T. in the outer office at about 10:30 p.m. Dr. ABRAMSON accompanied LASHBROOK and the agent to the street. On the way down, Dr. ABRAMSON spoke to LASHBROOK using medical terms which LASHBROOK apparently understood quite well. Agent WALTER P.T. got the impression that LASHBROOK is a doctor or scientist.

Agent WALTER P.T. and LASHBROOK took a taxi from 58th Street and Park Avenue to Pennsylvania Station where LASHBROOK boarded the 12:10 a.m. train for Washington, D.C., at 11:00 p.m.

On 2 December 1953, Agent JOHN D.P. obtained Certificate of Death relating to the SUBJECT from the New York City Department of Health, Bureau of Records and Statistics. This certificate is attached and marked Exhibit A.

On 2 December 1953, Agent JEREMIAH J.M. examined "WHO'S IMPORTANT IN MEDICINE," Second Edition, 1952, at the New York Public Library, 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue. This book contained the following information about Dr. HAROLD ABRAMSON:

"ABRAMSON, Harold Alexander, Physician; born November 27, 1899, New York, N.Y.; son of F. Samuel and M. Rose (Richard) Abramson; educated at Columbia Univ., AB 1920, MD 1923; married Barbara Howland Smith, June 26, 1933; Children - Alexandra Howland, Harold Alexander, Barbara Howland, Howland Wilson. Engaged in the practice of Medicine since 1925. National Research Council Fellow, Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Phys. Chemistry and Electrochemistry, Berlin, 1926-27. Instructor in Medicine, John Hopkins University, 1929-31. Associate in Bacteriology and Immunology, Cornell University, 1931-35. Assistant Professor of Physiology, Columbia University, since 1935. Associate Physician and Chief of Allergy Clinic, Mt. Sinai Hospital. Discovered and developed electrophoretic and ultracentrifugal isolation of molecules causing hay fever; elec. charge of blood cells; electrolhoretic (sic) skin tests and therapy with pollen extracts; mechanism of allergic skin reactions, nature of ionizing groups of protein surfaces. Initiated (1942) and

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directed penicillin aerosol therapy for lungs for Tech. Div., Chem. War Service, World War II. Assistant Chief and Chief, Defense Materiel. Fellow: N.Y. Academy of Medicine; American College of Allergists (Pres. 1951-52). Member: American Assn. for Advancement of Science; American Academy of Allergy; American Psychosomatic Society; N.Y. Academy of Science; N.Y. Allergy Society (Pres. 1951-52); American Society of Certified Allergists; American Society of Biological Chemists; N.Y. County Medical Society; Society for Experimental Biol. and Med.; Society for Investigative Dermatology; Alpha Omega Alpha; Epsilon Chi; Member, Board of Trustees, Biology Lab., Cold Spring Harbor, L.I. Awarded Meyerhof Prize, Columbia Medical College, 1921; Stevens Triennial Prize, Col. Univ., 1935; Legion of Merit, World War II. Member of Editorial Board: Annals of Allergy; Psychosomatic Medicine; Archives of Allergy and Immunology. Lt.-Col., Med. Corps Res. (inactive). Res: Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. Off: 133 East 58 St., N.Y. 22, N.Y."

The MEDICAL DIRECTORY OF NEW YORK STATE, Volume XLIV, 1951, published by the Medical Society of the State of New York, 292 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y., indicates that Dr. ABRAMSON's practice is limited to Immunology and Allergy.

On 2 December 1953, Agent JAMES J. McC. contacted Detectives JAMES WARD and DAVID MULLEE at the 14th Police Precinct, 138 West 30th Street, New York City. Detective WARD made available the complaint report in SUBJECT's case which indicated the date and time as 28 November 1953 at 3:50 a.m. The case number was 125124 and the crime DOA (Death on Arrival). The place of occurrence was noted to be the Hotel Statler, Room 1018A, 33rd Street and Seventh Avenue, and the case was handled by Detective JAMES WARD, 14th Squad.

The details as reported by complainant Patrolman GUASTEFESTE, Shield #11626, described the SUBJECT as "unknown, M-W-42-5'10"-170 lbs.-blue eyes-blond hair-partly bald-wearing white underwear. Registered in hotel under name of FRANK _____ of Route #5, Frederick, Md. Jumped or fell through window in room at place of occurrence and pronounced DOA by Dr. DELOSINO of St. Vincent's Hospital. Deceased found by Assistant Manager FITZGERALD of Statler Hotel. Body to station house."

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Report of Investigating Officer dated 11/28/53 stated that the investigation was being conducted and that in view of the facts set forth it was requested that the case remain active.

A supplementary complaint report concerning the case indicated that the crime or offense reported was now listed as DOA (Suicide). The status of the case was indicated as Closed WR (with written report).

The report of the investigation dated 30 November 1953 reflected the following:

"SUBJECT-RE: INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED, IDENTITY OF DECEASED, CAUSE OF DEATH AND DISPOSITION OF BODY.

1. Upon being notified of this occurrence, immediately visited place of occurrence, Statler Hotel, where a thorough investigation was conducted. At this time, it was disclosed that the deceased had registered in Rm. #1018A on November 26, 1953, under the name of FRANK R. _____, Frederick, Md., with another person named ROBERT LASHERCOCK, Washington, D.C., Apt. 109, who identified himself as a consultant chemist employed by the War Department, Defense Bureau, Adjutant's General's Office, Washington, D.C., under Serial #G1168321829 also had picture on card with number 3244. LASHERCOCK at this time disclosed that the deceased was one FRANK R. _____, Camp Detrick, Frederick, Maryland, a Bacteriologist, employed by the same branch of the government as he (LASHERCOCK). He further stated that the deceased with himself and a Colonel VINCENT RUWET, attached to Camp Detrick, Frederick, Md., came to New York City on November 24, 1953, for the purpose of having the deceased examined by a Dr. HAROLD AERAMSON, 133 E. 50th St., N.Y.C. (PL 3-6338), as he was suffering from a mental ailment. They remained in N.Y.C. until the morning of November 26, 1953, registered at the Statler Hotel, during which time the deceased was examined by the doctor on two occasions and on the morning of November 26, 1953, LASHERCOCK, with the deceased, returned to New York City and registered in the Statler Hotel. They again visited the aforementioned doctor and as a result of this visit the deceased was advised to enter a sanitarium as he was suffering from severe psychosis and illusions. At this time, arraignments were made for the deceased to enter the Chestnut Lodge, Rockville, Md., under the supervision of a Dr. FORT. On the evening of November 27, 1953, the deceased in the company of LASHERCOCK had dinner in the Cafe Rouge of the Statler Hotel and returned to their room at approximately 9:30 p.m.

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looked at television for approximately 1 hour and then proceeded to go to sleep. At approximately 3:20 a.m. on November 28, 1953, LASHROCK stated that he heard a crash of glass which awakened him and upon turning on the light he observed that the deceased was not in his bed and that the window of the room leading out to 7th Avenue was broken. He then called the operator of the hotel and at this time he learned that _____ had jumped out of the window.

"2. The assigned immediately checked on the above facts related by LASHROCK and they were verified by Dr. HAROLD ABRAMSON and Colonel VINCENT RUWET.

"3. Due to the importance of the positions held by the deceased and LASHROCK with the U.S. Government, the facts in this case were related to F.B.I. Agent GEORGE DALEN (by telephone).

"4. On November 28, 1953, autopsy performed on body of deceased by Assistant Medical Examiner DI MAIO and as a result of same it was disclosed that death resulted from multiple fractures.

"5. On November 28, 1953, body of the deceased claimed by his wife ALICE and delivered by Frank E. Campbell, undertakers, 1076 Madison Ave., under removal #67, for burial. CASE CLOSED."

This report was submitted and signed by Detective JAMES W. WARD, Shield #338, 11th Squad.

Before reviewing the report, Detective DAVID MULLEE, who had reported to duty on the evening shift a little earlier than Detective WARD, engaged in conversation with Agent JAMES J. McC. When MULLEE was contacted and advised that the agent was interested in obtaining the report concerning SUBJECT's case, MULLEE advised that he was Detective WARD's partner on the case. He stated that WARD was responsible for the report and he personally discussed the case and said that ROBERT LASHROCK, who was with the SUBJECT, had been quite uncooperative and he and Detective WARD had to bring LASHROCK to the station house before he would answer other questions. Detective MULLEE said that they were first very suspicious that LASHROCK and the SUBJECT might have been engaged in some homosexual affair and also were mulling over in their minds the possibility that the case was actually a homicide. He further stated that they were considering

3 December 1953

the possibility that SUBJECT and LASHEROCK were involved in some committee hearing for they were aware that Sen. Mc Carthy's Committee was in town around this time. He stated that the case of DUGGAN of the State Department came to mind and as a result they called the FBI to see whether or not they knew anything about either LASHEROCK or the SUBJECT. About this time, Detective JAMES WARD appeared and he more or less confirmed what Detective MULLEE had said. He advised that LASHEROCK was uncooperative and it was "like pulling teeth to get anything out of him." He said that they secured Dr. AERANSON's name from the hotel operator who apparently had intercepted LASHEROCK's call to Dr. AERANSON and he continued by stating that he could not believe anything could be so secretive that LASHEROCK would have been justified in being so uncooperative. He advised that he had been in touch with an F.B.I. agent (whom Detective MULLEE thought was named Mc SHANE) whom he, Detective WARD, did not identify, and who was equally unbelieving and had expressed the opinion that he did not know of any government work so confidential as to justify a lack of cooperation with police officials.

After this discussion, Detective WARD made available report set forth above and when the report was returned to him, in answer to a query as to whether the FBI was still interested in the case he stated that he believed they were doing further checking into the background of LASHEROCK.

Detectives WARD and MULLEE advised that the SUBJECT's case had been given little publicity but this was not because the reporters were not interested in the case at the time that it happened, but rather that none of the more important New York newspapers have been published since the incident occurred. They said that reporters had been around the station house trying to get details on the story on the day it happened but advised that after twenty-four hours news stories lose their value.

Detectives WARD and MULLEE were fully cooperative and advised that they would be willing to give further help if it were desired.

*Rev General Counsel - 5 Jan 54.

Photostat furnished to
BEC with claim.

Ren/0/16

EXHIBIT "A"

13
4 December 1953

Memorandum for: General Counsel

Subject: Observations on Mr. Frank Olson from 24 November through 27 November 1953

1. I understand that in connection with the submission of a claim to the Bureau of Employees Compensation, you wish a report on the events prior to the death of Mr. Olson from me. The following is submitted for your records.
2. I saw Mr. Olson in the company of Dr. Lashbrook and Colonel Ruwet in my office in New York City, 133 East 58th Street. I understood that he had been agitated for some time and that he had been making statements which appeared to be confused. I was asked to make further observations so that proper treatment for Mr. Olson could be instituted for Mr. Olson if any treatment was considered necessary.
3. On Tuesday, 24 November 1953, conversations were begun which centered mainly on our earlier meetings during the war in 1944 and 1945. Many older interests were recalled. We discussed construction of gas masks, filtration problems, our attitudes towards mutual friends, and many things which were most pertinent at that time. Our conversation at this point was on a social level in which the patient had, contrary to his later attitudes, an excellent feeling and memory for people, events and realistic aspects of these people and events. He did show that he was under strain by his mannerisms but at no time during his primary conversation did he appear to be definitely out of touch with reality. Dr. Lashbrook and Colonel Ruwet left the office and I spent about one hour alone with Mr. Olson. As soon as these gentlemen left, he showed greater anxiety about his sense of inadequacy with particular reference to the scientific performance of his duties. He was obsessed with the idea that his memory was poor, that his work was inadequate, and that he was failing to live up to expectations of his family and friends. He mentioned that he was dishonest because he had been retired from the Army for an ulcer and showed a certain amount of unrealistic but nevertheless anticipated guilt feelings about taking retirement pay. I attempted to confirm what I had heard that an experimenta had been performed especially to trap him the preceding week but

he emphasized that his present problem did not lay in that area and that his problem was his own ability to live up to his own concept of what his performance of his duties should be and his inability to attain the perfections necessitated by the needs of his work. He, himself, pointed out that when he was asked to take over more responsibility and head up a division he refused and went into a state of panic feeling that he could hardly, with his own growing feelings of inadequacy in his work, take over more responsibility.

4. That evening, in order to keep in contact with him and to accumulate more data, I went to the hotel and spent from 10:30 to 11:30 with Mr. Olson, Dr. Lashbrock and Colonel Fuvet. Again, Mr. Olson appeared to maintain an excellent relationship with all of us. Although apprehensive he apparently was much calmer and after a strictly social discussion said as I left, "You know, I feel a lot better. This is what I have been needing."

5. The next day Mr. Olson spent an hour with me in which he again appeared agitated. There was repeated discussion of his concern with the quality of his work, his guilt on being retired from the Army for an ulcer, and his release of classified information. He said that he had had these feelings for a very long time and that they had not started the week before when he participated in an experiment and that, indeed, in March of 1953 his wife thought that he was so depressed and agitated that she thought that he should see a doctor. He said that he had been sleeping poorly since March of 1953 and amplified his difficulties with regard to poor memory and poor work. However, I could not harmonize what he said about his job performance with the attitude of his superiors since he had been offered a division. Nor did this check with repeated questioning of past events. I again attempted to get further information in regard to his feelings of persecution but at no time did he speak of anyone but with the highest regard for both friends and family. He stated explicitly that he wished to go back home and that arrangements had been made. I saw no way in which this could be prevented but plans were made for his return and further discussion.

6. I understand that on his way home he became agitated, very confused, and insisted on coming back to see me. He arrived in my Huntington office about four o'clock and this time the pent-up feelings which he had successfully hidden burst out in the greatest detail. The patient explicitly stated that he had long felt that his inability to sleep was connected with his belief that the CIA group had been putting something

like benzadrine in his coffee at night to keep him awake; that he had heard voices the night before telling him to throw away his wallet. His history now crystallized into a definite form if we accept what he said that he had been delusional at least for weeks, probably months, but that he had been able to operate fairly well except in certain crises such as being offered more responsibility in taking over the division.

7. The diagnosis was quite clear of a psychotic state which seemed to have been crystallized by an experiment in which Mr. Olson participated the preceding week, apparently on a Thursday. He felt that his feelings during the experiment were like those of being overwhelmed by a mountain very much the same as he felt when he had to take over a new responsibility. Since the experiment he felt that he was not able to deal with his work as well as he had before and although he personally considered the experiment to be unrelated to his basic problem he has nevertheless felt worse since, and that the experiment might have intensified many of his problems.

8. With this information I recommended hospitalization at once and on Friday morning, November 27, Mr. Olson, Dr. Lashbrook, and I discussed in some detail the choice of hospital. Mr. Olson thought that he would like to be near home and for this reason a mental institution near Washington was chosen and a room was reserved. The hospital could not take Mr. Olson that day and arrangements were made for hospitalization the next morning.

CONCLUSION

Mr. Olson was in a psychotic state when hospitalization was decided upon with delusions of persecution. There are two aspects in regard to the relationship to the work in which he was engaged. It is well known that it is an occupational hazard to mental stability to be doing the type of work connected with his duties. Guilt feelings are well known to occur to a greater or less extent. Superimposed on these guilt feelings which are certainly an occupational hazard is his participation in an experiment wherein he felt that many of his feelings became overwhelming. It is well known that many drugs produce this effect. For example, I have had a patient of mine recently attempt suicide after taking one capsule of Nembutal. A capsule of Nembutal contains one and one-half grains. This is a therapeutic dose which is taken by thousands

of people daily yet this patient's personality structure was so oriented that one dose of this material taken by thousands of people daily was sufficient to have her reach for the box which she did. Fortunately, her husband was present and caused her to vomit up the capsules. It is certainly conceivable and certainly cannot be excluded that Mr. Olson's participation in an experiment in which a drug was administered could in just the same way precipitate a crisis which would upset the mental processes so that disorientation and the lack of mental functioning might be produced with the results readily observed. In this connection it has been my experience that certain individuals who, in an experimental situation may be given no drug whatsoever, yet show great symptoms of anxiety and confusion.

Harold A. Abramson

Harold A. Abramson, M. D.

14

4 December 1953

MEMORANDUM TO: Chief, Investigative Division

SUBJECT : OLSON, Frank
No. 73317 - S.I.

1. Reference is made to our telephonic conversations on 2 and 3 December 1953 concerning Dr. HAROLD A. ABRAMSON.

2. Reference is also made to Report dated 1 June 1953, Case No. 74150. It will be noted that this report indicates that Dr. ABRAMSON was interviewed by Agent ILEFF of this office on 22 May 1953. A certificate in Dr. ABRAMSON's office indicated that he was an allergist. The report further indicated that Dr. ABRAMSON was engaged in psychiatric research testing the efficacy of a new drug under a grant by some foundation in Washington, D.C. This report further indicates that Dr. MARGARET W. PERUSON, a psychiatrist, had been hired by Dr. ABRAMSON for work on this research project. Dr. PERUSON advised Agent ILEFF that Dr. ABRAMSON is an allergist who is in charge of a series of psychiatric experiments.

3. Reference is made to our OGC report in Subject Case dated 3 December 1953. On pages 7 and 8 of this report there appears extensive information concerning Dr. ABRAMSON's professional qualifications. This information indicates that Dr. ABRAMSON limits his practice to allergy and immunology. It is to be noted that Dr. ABRAMSON is a member of the American Psychosomatic Society and a member of the Editorial Board of "Psychosomatic Medicine." The above information was taken from "Who's Important in Medicine," Second Edition, 1952. Two reputable physicians consulted by the undersigned advised that this is an unofficial publication and that information contained therein is supplied by the doctor listed in much the same manner as "Who's Who." To this extent, it may therefore be considered as in the nature of a self-serving declaration. In this connection, it was pointed out by the two physicians consulted by the undersigned that if the doctor in question had formal or substantial psychiatric training, he would

Case No. 73317

have listed it. There is no indication that Dr. ABRAMSON has ever held himself out as a psychiatrist.

4. On 3 December 1953, ALBERT A. BUCHHEITZ, New York State Education Department, Division of Professional Laws Enforcement, advised that any licensed physician may practice psychiatry without additional licensing. He stated, however, that it is usual for physicians who practice psychiatry to have some extra formal training in the field and to be certified by some organization such as the American Psychiatric Association or the American Board of Medical Specialists.

5. On 3 December 1953, two reputable physicians consulted by the undersigned advised that psychosomatic medicine relates to that medical theory which holds that some illnesses may be of psychogenic origin. They indicated that psychosomatic medicine is not a medical specialty in itself such as cardiology, immunology and allergy, etc. They indicated that to some extent the psychosomatic approach is used by all physicians in the treatment of their patients.

6. On 3 December 1953, a telephone call under suitable pretext was made to the American Psychosomatic Society, ELderado 5-2799, 551 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. A woman who did not identify herself advised that formal psychiatric training was not a prerequisite for membership in the American Psychosomatic Society. She indicated that the membership represented all branches of medicine with a good proportion of psychiatrists and internists.

CIA Officer

Special Agent in Charge

(13)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

My name is Vincent L. Ruwet, a Lt. Colonel in the Chemical Corps. At the time of the death of Dr. Frank R. Olson I was assigned as Chief of Special Operations Division in which division Dr. Olson was a Branch Chief.

I first met Dr. Olson on the 1st of July, 1951, on which date I reported to the Division. From July, 1951, to January, 1952, we were in intimate contact professionally and on comparable levels professionally, that is, I was Assistant to the Division Chief and he was a Branch Chief. Also during that time we became very friendly socially and I saw a great deal of him and his family both at his home and they at my home.

In January, 1952, I left the Division to undertake the duties of Executive Officer of the Post at which time my daily professional contact was more limited but I did work with him on a liaison basis, particularly, with reference to matters pertaining to the mission of SO Division. Subsequent to that time in August, 1952, I became the Assistant Deputy Director of the Biological Laboratories and my relations with the deceased continued on about the same level. During this period we continued our social friendship on a very close and intimate basis.

In June, 1952, I was assigned as Acting Division Chief of SO Division in addition to my other duties. In October, 1953, I was appointed Division Chief, which fact seemed to please Dr. Olson, very much.

During the period just covered Dr. Olson was Branch Chief until October, 1952, at which time he was prevailed upon by Dr. Schwab and myself to become Acting Chief of SO Division by reason of the fact that Dr. Schwab had left the Division. Dr. Olson did this reluctantly since he said that he was

adverse to taking on administrative type of work and preferred closer touch with the laboratory bench. Dr. Olson carried on as Acting Division Chief until 1 March, 1953 at which time he was removed at his own request to revert to Branch Chief, his old job, and in addition to his other duties Special Assistant to the Division Chief.

During the period described above and before the experiment my estimate of Dr. Frank R. Olson is as follows --

His personality was that almost of an extrovert. He liked a practical joke, did not carry it to excess.

Socially, he was very popular, "life of the party" type. He was the first one on hand to assist anyone who might have troubles either professionally or personal. He and his wife were extremely popular persons on the Camp.

As a professional man my estimate of his ability is that he was outstanding. The extent of my contact with him has already been stated from October (professionally and at work) from July, 1951, to January, 1952, the contact was daily.

From January, 1952 to June, 1953, it was probably on the order of 2 or 3 times a week. From June, 1953, until his death the contact was daily. At all times from June, 1951, and until his death my social contact with him and his family was intimate.

For the period in which I have knowledge my estimate of the performance of his duties officially was satisfactory to outstanding. I would say that from the cumulative standpoint and in comparison with other scientists doing similar type of work he was outstanding.

During the period prior to the experiment my opinion of his state of mind

was that I noticed nothing which would lead me to believe that he was of unsound mind. He had the normal family worries, (worries that I consider to be normal). Occasionally he had trouble with his ulcers but was always reluctant to discuss personal troubles with anyone.

Professionally he was making very fine progress particularly in the last year and was most successful in the work he was doing.

I would further like to insert as regards to his personality or personal habits that he did smoke and did take social drinks but did not use either to excess.

The experiment took place Thursday, November 19th, 1953 in the evening. I saw Dr. Olson on Friday morning. We had breakfast and he appeared to be agitated and at the time I did not consider this to be abnormal under the circumstances.

Immediately after breakfast on Friday morning, November 20th, Dr. Olson came to me and had asked if I would object if he rode back to "home-station" with Mr. Champlin. I stated, "Of course, not; that it was perfectly all right with me."

The next time I saw Dr. Olson was on Monday morning, 23rd of November, 1953. I came to work about 7:30 and Dr. Olson was waiting for me in his office. He appeared to be agitated and asked me if I should fire him or should he quit. I was taken "a-back" by this and asked him what was wrong. He stated that in his opinion he had messed up the experiment and did not do well at the meetings. I talked with Dr. Olson for about a half hour and further discussed it with him stating that in my opinion he had the wrong impression - that I thought he did very well at the meetings and in

his participation in the experiment was above reproach. He appeared to be satisfied and relieved.

We attended two professional appointments together and I noticed nothing unusual except that he appeared to have some difficulty in concentrating. We also had lunch together on that date. He did not eat very well; I did notice that. We attended an official movie and meeting at 1530 that afternoon. He was riding home in a car-pool that night and immediately after the movie he said, "so-long," and ran to catch his car.

The next time I saw him was the following morning, Tuesday, 24 November, 1953, when he again was waiting for me in my office when I came to work, about 7:30 a.m. He appeared to be greatly agitated and in his own words, "all mixed up." He said he felt that he was not competent, that he had done something wrong. When questioned closely he could not say exactly what he thought he had done wrong. He made reference to the fact that he thought he should not have been retired for physical reasons but when this was pushed he shifted to the fact that he felt incompetent to the type of work he was doing - when this was pursued he seemed to look for something else which he had done wrong.

After about an hour of discussion it became apparent to me that Dr. Olson ^{but} needed psychiatric attention. I continued the discussion in such a way as to attempt to get him to suggest that he needed some help. This he did, finally. Dr. Stubbs, who was present, and I immediately agreed that this was our opinion also and I suggested to him that I call Mr. Robert Lashbrook and arrange for such assistance. This he agreed to and said that he would go home at once and discuss the situation with his wife, which he did.

I immediately called Mr. Lashbrook and explained to him what the situation

was and expressed the opinion that Dr. Olson was in serious trouble and needed immediate professional attention. Dr. Lashbrook said that he understood and would take immediate action. Meanwhile Dr. Olson had been discussing this with his wife. I received a call from his wife asking if she could come along and I told her that she could. We were to go to Washington, D.C. for further assistance.

Shortly after this Dr. Lashbrook called back and wanted to know what time we would be in Washington since he had arranged for an appointment in New York with a psychiatrist and that he would obtain air reservations for us to go to New York. About 5 minutes after that Dr. and Mrs. Olson arrived at the office. We went from there to my home where I changed from uniform to civilian clothes and we ^{were} driven from my home to Washington by Mr. John C. Malinowski.

En route Dr. Olson appeared to be greatly agitated, highly suspicious, and in his own words, "all mixed up." We stopped at the Hot Shoppe restaurant in Bethesda, Md., to have lunch. Dr. Olson ordered lunch but ate or drank very little. He appeared to be highly suspicious of food or drink. We then proceeded to Dr. Lashbrook's office. I went in and saw Dr. Lashbrook and explained the situation to him again. Dr. Olson stayed out in the car with his wife and Mr. Malinowski. I found out later that he had asked Mr. Malinowski to leave the car so that he could talk to his wife, which was done.

After about 15 minutes I came out and suggested to Mr. Malinowski and Mrs. Olson that they leave us there and that we would get to the air-port with Dr. Lashbrook who was going with us. We proceeded for the air-port and left for New York as I can estimate the time now, about 2:30 p.m. Nov. 24.

During the trip Dr. Olson's condition appeared to be about the same. He was very anxious and he had the feeling that someone was out to get him. He didn't appear to be quite sure why, etc.,

We arrived in New York without incident, proceeded from LaGuardia Airport to Dr. Abramson's office; arrived there approximately 5 p.m. ^{SP?} We left Dr. Olson with Dr. Abramson who requested us to come back in about 1 hour.

After an hour we came back and Dr. Abramson suggested that we go to a hotel and we told him we had reservations at the Statler Hotel. He stated that he would come up to our room about 10:30 with some sedatives and also suggested that we have a "high-ball." Dr. Olson, Dr. Lashbrook and I went directly to the hotel, sat and talked for a while, then went to the cocktail-lounge, had a Martini and then went to dinner. Dr. Olson drank a Martini but refused to drink a second one. He ate very little; still appeared to very suspicious, of Dr. Lashbrook and myself.

After dinner we went back to our rooms, discussed various things and Dr. Olson asked to talk with me alone. Again he appeared to very anxious, upset and kept asking, "What's behind all this? Give me the low-down; What are they trying to do with me; are they checking me for security, etc.,?" I did my best to re-assure him and tried to show him wherein factually he was imagining these difficulties and thought I had convinced him, at least, he said that he thought things were clearing up and also he said that he thought Dr. Abramson could help him.

About 10:30 p.m. Dr. Abramson came and brought a bottle of bourbon and some "Nembutal." for Dr. Olson. We sat around and had just a good, social discussion and a couple of "high-balls." About mid-night Dr. Abramson

said, "Well, it's time to go to bed." He suggested to Dr. Olson that he take a "Nembutal" which he did at that time and that Dr. Olson take another should he have difficulty sleeping. By the way Dr. Olson had complained to me from the start that he had not been able to sleep after Thursday. He said that he got no sleep. Dr. Olson fell asleep. The undersigned remained awake.

Dr. Olson fell asleep immediately after going to bed and I heard him get up about 3 to go to the bath-room. He came to bed but obviously could not fall asleep as he was tossing and turning and talking to himself. I don't remember what he was saying. I asked him about that time if he would take another Nembutal and he said no. Finally about 5:30 a.m. he appeared to get upset again and I suggested that he take a Nembutal; he agreed and took it. We started discussing the situation over again - the content of the conversation was almost identical to what it had been before. Then he went back to sleep, or I believe, at least rested until about 9:30 a.m. on the morning of the 25th of November, 1953.

At this time he got up, watched television and the three of us, Dr. Lashbrook, Dr. Olson and myself went to breakfast. He ate some breakfast and appeared to be a little better although he ^{was} still ~~been~~ in a rather anxious state in my opinion. We then accompanied Dr. Lashbrook, at Dr. Lashbrook's suggestion, on an official visit which he had to make. During this visit Dr. Olson again became highly suspicious and mixed up. When this became apparent we tactfully cut the visit short and left. We went from there to the doctor's office for the 4 o'clock appointment. We left Dr. Olson there and picked him shortly after 5 o'clock. Dr. Olson had requested that he return home for Thanksgiving dinner so that he could have dinner with his family

and this was agreed to by Dr. Abramson who suggested that we make an appointment to come back up on Tuesday, 1 December 1953. I asked at that time if he would like to have me come with Dr. Olson or if Dr. Olson should come alone. He said this was entirely up to Dr. Olson - if he wished he could come alone; if he wished to have company it would be perfectly alright for me to come. So then we left Dr. Abramson's office; came back to the hotel and at my suggestion got tickets for a musical show, "Me and Juliet." We went out to dinner and from there to the show which started at 8:30 p.m.

Dr. Olson appeared to get upset during the first act and at intermission he was highly agitated and stated that he knew that people were outside waiting to arrest him on his departure from the show. I tried to reassure that I personally ^{would} ~~with~~ guarantee him that he will be in Frederick or at home the following morning and that he would be there with his family for Thanksgiving. He stated that he didn't believe me and I told him, "Well, he must do so and that I would give him my word of honor that this would be so." I pointed out that we had the plane reservations. I suggested that maybe he didn't want to see rest of the show and that he and I talk and walk. To this suggestion he quickly agreed. We left the theatre ~~with him~~ and he was in a very anxious state. We walked back to the hotel from the theatre, talking all the while, and by the time we arrived at the hotel he appeared to be more relaxed. We went back to the hotel-room, talked and watched television, discussed going home the following day, ^{had} ~~and~~ Dr. Lashbrock stayed for the remainder of the show, and came in about 11 or 11:30 p.m. We talked for a little while, called the desk to arrange for being called in time get out to the airport the following morning. The call was arranged for 5:30 a.m. I went to bed and unfortunately I fell asleep, did not hear anything until 5:30 when the phone rang. It was

the hotel operator waking us up. I flicked on the light; Dr. Olson was not in his bed and his clothes were gone.

I immediately informed Dr. Lashbrook who was in the adjoining room and we dressed, went down to the hotel lobby as speedily as possible and there we found Dr. Olson fully dressed with his over-coat and hat on sitting in a chair. He stated he was walking around in the streets and that in the process he had disposed of his identification button, his wallet, and his money. He stated that he had done this because I had instructed him to do so since I was with him. I told him that I wasn't with him; he said, "Yes, that's right, I must have been dreaming." Since there was no time to ~~wait~~ ^{waste} we decided against looking for his wallet and identification badge, immediately went up to the room, shaved and dressed; Dr. Olson also shaved. We checked out of the hotel; got a taxi and went to LaGuardia Airport in time to make a 7:30 plane. Plane was delayed approximately one hour because of mechanical difficulties. We arrived in Washington; Dr. Olson appeared to be more relaxed at this time.

Dr. Olson ate on the plane and slept the entire trip, (1 hour). We arrived in Washington were met by Mr. Malinowski, Thursday, Nov. 26th, (Thanksgiving Day.) We got in Mr. Malinowski's car and headed for Frederick.

In north-west Washington on Wisconsin avenue Dr. Olson asked if we couldn't stop the car and talk this thing over and I asked him if there was anything wrong and he said, "Well, I would like to talk things over." We stopped in the parking lot at Howard Johnson's on Wisconsin avenue near Bethesda-Chevy Chase Woodward Lothrop store. He asked Mr. Malinowski to leave the car as he wanted to discuss something with me - Mr. Malinowski complied. He told me he could not go back to Frederick since he was so ~~and~~ ^{and} he was ordered to meet his wife and family and requested to

just leave him go and would go off by himself. This I told him I could not do. He then asked me to turn him over to the police since they wanted him anyway. We discussed this at considerable length and he appeared satisfied - that the police did not want him. I then suggested that maybe he would like to go back to see Dr. Abramson. He agreed to this suggestion.

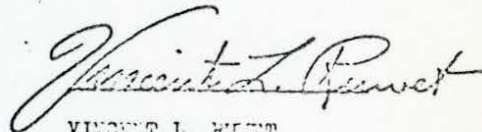
I then called Dr. Lashbrook and told him what the situation was and he told me to take Dr. Olson to his apartment immediately. This was done. We decided to take Dr. Olson back to New York to see Dr. Abramson and it was decided that since Mrs. Olson was entitled to know what the situation was and because she was expecting him for Thanksgiving dinner I should proceed to Frederick to brief Mrs. Olson. Dr. Olson appeared to be very much upset and agitated. Again, all mixed up. This was the worst that I had seen him, since the experiment took place. This ^{was} ~~is~~ the last time I saw Dr. Olson.

On Friday evening, approximately 10:30, November 27th, I received a call from New York from Dr. Lashbrook who stated that reservations had been made for Dr. Olson at Chestnut Lodge in Rockville, Maryland and that they had plane reservations for the following morning and were scheduled to arrive in Washington at 9:34 on the 28th of November. ~~This~~ ^{He} suggested that I meet the plane which I agreed to do. I then asked if Dr. Olson was still speaking to me in a rather joking manner. I heard Dr. Lashbrook ask him this question and his answer was, "Why, yes, let me have the phone." Dr. Olson appeared on the phone quite relaxed. He told me about the trip in the morning, about the fact that he had reservations at Chestnut Lodge. I told him that I ~~knew~~ ^{knew} the latter as Dr. Lashbrook had

told me so. I also told him I would meet the plane. He suggested that I not do so since that day was Saturday and he knew that I probably had work to do around the house. I told him to think nothing of that and that I would meet him. He said, "fine. I'll see you in the morning." This is the last time I spoke to Dr. Olson.

At approximately 2:45 a.m. Sat. Nov. 28th, 1953, I received a call from Dr. Gottlieb with a message that Dr. Olson had died.

I HEREBY CERTIFY TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENTS ARE TRUE AND CORRECT.



VINCENT L. RUSK
Lt. Col. G-1C
Chief, SO Division
Camp Detrick
Frederick, Maryland

(16)

SUBJECT: Chronological Relationship with Dr. Frank R. Olson

I first met Dr. Frank R. Olson at Camp Detrick during the month of May 1943 at which time he was a commissioned officer in the Army, assigned to the classified research project at this station. During the period of May 1943 to May 1944 I was also assigned to this project as a commissioned officer. Dr. Olson's work during this time was mainly in the field of aerobiology and was assigned to another division. I was not in close contact, in the above period of time, with Dr. Olson either professionally or socially.

From May 1944 to September 1945 I was assigned to the Vigo Plant, Indiana Chemical Corps Installation, during which time I had no contact with Dr. Olson.

My next contact was made after my reassignment to Camp Detrick in October 1945. From October 1945 to September 1950, Dr. Olson was assigned to the Aerobiology Branch in the Physical Defense Division of the CmlC Biological Laboratories. In that capacity he was not closely associated with me professionally; however, we had numerous social contacts.

In September 1950 Dr. Olson joined the newly formed S0 Division of which I was Chief. His first assignment to this Division was to take charge of the planning, training and intelligence activities. On October 1952 I was transferred from the S0 Division to the Director's Office. From October 1952 to April 1953 Dr. Olson assumed my duties in the S0 Division. In April 1953 Dr. Wedum, Safety Director of the CmlC Biological Laboratories, recommended that Dr. Olson be relieved of his duties as Chief of S0 Division due to his health (ulcers). Lt Col DeCarlo was then appointed Chief of S0 Division and Dr. Olson assumed the duties as Chief of Plans and Assessment Branch. He continued this assignment up to the date of his death.

SUBJECT: Chronological Relationship with Dr. Frank R. Olson (Contd) 2

Dr. Olson was considered as an authority in the field of aerobiology, a science which was developed considerably during the years 1943 to 1953 at Camp Detrick. Both his superiors and subordinates regarded him as a highly qualified scientist in this field.

During the years I have known Dr. Olson I have had numerous social contacts with him and his family, visiting often at his home. He was always extremely cheerful, more than willing to help anyone in distress, often times making it a point to cheer not only his friends but others who were in a depressed mood. Dr. Olson enjoyed an occasional alcoholic drink but did not indulge excessively. His general state of mind and outlook on life was always that of extreme optimism. Never was there any indication of pessimism.

Dr. Olson could be classified as a family man, taking great interest in his home and the activities of his family. He imbedded in the minds of his children the need of religion in life, making sure that they attended their Sunday School regularly and would also encourage his friends' children to attend with them.

My last personal contact with Dr. Olson was on November 11, 1953, at which time he brought his children to visit and play with my children. At this time he appeared normal in all respects and as cheerful as ever.

I had no personal contacts with Dr. Olson after the experiment. I had first learned on Monday, November 25th, 1953, from Lt. Col. Vincent Ruzet that Dr. Olson had been exposed and was showing symptoms of reaction.

On Tuesday, November 24th, I was notified that Dr. Olson was being taken to New York City for treatment.

SUBJECT: Chronological Relationship with Dr. Frank R. Olson (Contd)

On Wednesday, November 25th, I was notified that condition was not serious and that recovery was expected.

On Thursday evening, November 26th, I was notified that Dr. Olson had returned to New York for further treatment.

On Friday, November 27th, I was notified that Dr. Olson was under treatment and that arrangements were being made for treatment at a private institution in this area. (Washington, D.C.-Frederick, Md.)

At approximately 3 a.m. on Saturday, November 28th, 1953, I was notified that Dr. Olson had leaved from the Statler Hotel.

At approximately 6 a.m. same date I received confirmation that the leap was fatal.

I HEREBY CERTIFY TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENTS ARE TRUE AND CORRECT.

Director, Biological Laboratories
Camp Detrick
Frederick, Maryland

17

OBSERVATIONS ON DR. FRANK OLSON - 1951 - 1953

I have been personally acquainted with Dr. Frank Olson approximately since September of 1951. The nature of my personal contacts with him have been at the level of collaborators in research activities of mutual interest to his group and mine. This period has been characterized, among other things, by three periodic meetings in secluded areas where the group involved in the meetings lived together for two or three day periods. At these meetings the writer had an opportunity to personally observe Dr. Olson in informal surroundings and during periods of time when he was not engaged in official scientific activities. The other contacts, which averaged about one every two or three months involved official visits either by me to his research facility or vice versa. I would estimate that the total number of contacts which I had with him during the period September 1, 1951 up to November 19, 1953 totaled thirteen or fourteen. Although the principal topic of conversation at these contacts was official scientific business, a fairly close personal relationship had also developed, and a minor part of the various conversations I had with him concerned personal matters, unrelated to our scientific or official relationship.

During this period Dr. Olson seemed to me to be a very effective research scientist, in excellent command of his field of experimentation and very devoted to the successful execution of his duties. He seemed to me a stable individual, not particularly given to making snap judgments and able to get along very well among his colleagues. It was made known to me on several occasions, through incidental remarks made either by himself or his colleagues, that he had been suffering from recurring trouble with a duodenal ulcer. I had no occasion to observe any instance when this interfered with his work.

Dr. Olson appeared to me to be very impressed by the importance of the security aspects of his job. Working in an installation where extreme security measures were in effect for the entire installation, Dr. Olson conscientiously accepted the added security burdens that his group's collaboration with my group entailed. He was not at liberty to discuss these areas of research with any individuals except perhaps six to eight of his immediate associates. Occasionally, areas of effort were developed in which he was at liberty to discuss certain information with only one other person at his research facility. He seemed to me to bear these various security burdens well.

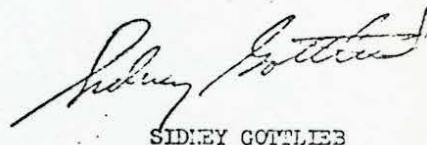
During this period (from September 1951 to November 19, 1953) I had no occasion to observe aberrant or irrational behavior in any of my contacts with Dr. Olson.

The November 18 - 20 meeting between Dr. Olson's group and my own, at which 7 members of his group were present and three of mine, was concerned with routine matters of evaluating results of the past six months research and planning the next six month's work. Up to the time of the experiment, I observed nothing in Dr. Olson's behavior or actions which was different from that described above.

On November 20, the day after the experiment, I had occasion to observe Dr. Olson for about two hours in the morning, between 7 A.M. and 9 A.M. Aside from some evidence of fatigue, I observed nothing unusual in his actions, conversation, or general behavior.

My next contact with Dr. Olson was on Tuesday November 24, just prior to his departure for New York with Dr. Lashbrook and Col. Ruwet. The meeting with Dr. Olson took place in my office between approximately 1:30 and 2:00 P.M. and lasted about ten minutes. I talked briefly with Dr. Olson about various scientific and personal matters. He seemed to me to be confused in certain areas of his thinking, particularly as regarded his feelings of incompetence in relation to his job and to the futility of trying to help him.

My last contact with Dr. Olson took place on Thursday, November 26 in Dr. Lashbrook's apartment, just prior to their return to New York to see Dr. Abramsen. I was with Dr. Olson and Dr. Lashbrook approximately 1 hour, spending the last 30 minutes driving Dr. Olson and Dr. Lashbrook to the airport. During this period Dr. Olson seemed more disturbed and agitated than he had been the previous Tuesday. He talked in a clear enough manner, but his thoughts were confused. He again talked about his incompetence in his work, the hopelessness of anybody helping him, and the fact that the best thing to do was to abandon him and not bother about him. It seemed to me that he was very mentally disturbed at this time.



SIDNEY GOTTLIEB

7 December 1953

18
TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

SUBJECT: Observations on Dr. Frank Olson

I first met Dr. Frank Olson the early part of 1952. Since that time I have seen him on an average of about once each month to six weeks, in connection with my official business. These contacts involved discussions of technical problems in fields of mutual interest, results of past scientific work, and planning of future activities. In general, other members of his Division were also present.

In addition, both he and I attended three 2-day conferences which were held in isolated locations to discuss the progress of his Division for the past six months, our requirements, and plans for the next six months. The conferences were attended by members of his Division and of my Division and involved living together in close proximity for the duration of the conference.

During the time I knew Dr. Olson, he has been Acting Chief of his Division, and Branch Chief. At all times he has held positions of responsibility and his importance to his Division appeared to remain at a consistently high level. Prior to the experiment, Dr. Olson was a competent scientist with an excellent command of his field. His judgement was sound and characteristically backed up by rational and carefully-considered reasons. In my observation he performed his duties in a superior manner. It was evident that Dr. Olson was highly regarded by his colleagues, both as a scientist and as a friend. He was friendly and got along well with his colleagues. From what Dr. Olson has said (and the manner in which he spoke) and from what his colleagues have said, it appeared his home life was happy. In my experience, he drank only to be sociable, and then definitely in moderation.

His work was extremely exacting and definitely hazardous in a technical sense. He operated under very severe security restrictions, under which it was necessary to conceal the true nature of his activities even from the other Divisions at his base. He was permitted to discuss much of his work only with a very limited number of specifically designated individuals.

The experiment was on Thursday, November 19th. On Tuesday, November 24th, Dr. Olson's Division Chief telephoned me and said that, in the opinion of him, Dr. Olson, and Mrs. Olson, Dr. Olson needed psychiatric attention. I suggested that he and Dr. Olson come to Washington immediately. I conferred with the Chief of my Division, and it was decided that a certain New York physician specializing in such matters should be consulted. I telephoned Dr. Olson's Division Chief and suggested they prepare for a trip to New York. The Chief

placed both himself and Dr. Olson on orders and met me and the Chief of my Division in Washington. After a short discussion, Dr. Olson, the Chief of his Division, and I boarded a plane for New York and arrived at the New York physician's office about 1645. After a short conference with the doctor, Dr. Olson was left with him until about 1800.

From the time I saw Dr. Olson in Washington until I left him at the physician's office in New York, he seemed rather depressed, somewhat confused, and convinced he would never return to his home and job. These were quite different from the attitudes I had observed prior to the experiment.

At about 1800 Dr. Olson, his Division Chief, and I checked into the Statler Hotel, had dinner, returned to our room and watched television. From about 2200 to 2300 the New York physician visited the three of us in our hotel room. During the period covered by this paragraph, Dr. Olson indicated in my presence that he felt he had failed in his job, he was a disgrace to his colleagues, friends, and family, and that his memory and mental ability had failed. However, in the course of normal conversation, it was quite apparent that both his memory and ability to discuss scientific topics were excellent. Dr. Olson also indicated he was sleeping poorly, and said we shouldn't bother with him, we should let him just "disappear".

The following day (Wednesday) Dr. Olson again had a private session with the New York doctor (about 1600 to 1700). At the conclusion of this, the physician talked to the three of us, indicating Dr. Olson could go home for Thanksgiving (Thursday) if he desired, or he could accept his (the physician's) invitation to spend Thanksgiving and the week-end with the physician's family at his home at Cold Spring Harbor. Dr. Olson preferred to go home, and an appointment was made for Dr. Olson to see the physician the following Tuesday. Dr. Olson, his Division Chief, and I returned to the hotel, had dinner, then went to a play. At the intermission Dr. Olson became rather agitated, and said he wanted to leave. He and his Division Chief returned to the hotel.

The following morning (Thursday) when Dr. Olson's Division Chief and I awakened (about 0530), Dr. Olson was gone. We found him in the hotel lobby. He said he had left the hotel about 0400 for a walk, and indicated several things that had transpired. He felt his Division Chief had been talking to him. He said he had torn up his money, thrown it and several uncashed checks away (because he wouldn't need them anymore), and had thrown his wallet away, down a chute someplace. He said he felt his Division Chief was telling him to do these things. We then returned to Washington. However, we probably would not have returned had it not been that Dr. Olson never seemed to really believe that we would return home, and we had made it a point of honor that we would return if he wanted to (this was done after we had obtained the physicians' approval). We were met at the Washington Airport by a member of Dr. Olson's Division, and Dr. Olson and his Division Chief set off for their home town.

Shortly afterwards I received a call from the Division Chief, now on the outskirts of Washington. He said Dr. Olson had changed his mind, was quite agitated, and that he (the Division Chief) now felt Dr. Olson should be hospitalized and definitely should not return home. I told him to come to my apartment at once, meanwhile I contacted my Division Chief, who also set out for my apartment. When he arrived at my apartment, Dr. Olson appeared depressed and restless. He repeated his firm decision that he could not face going home. Dr. Olson's Division Chief then returned to his home town to explain to Mrs. Olson, and my Division Chief drove Dr. Olson and me to the airport, where Dr. Olson and I boarded a plane for New York. We met the New York physician at his Huntington, Long Island, office about 1600, and Dr. Olson was alone with him about one hour, followed by about 20 minutes with Dr. Olson and me. The physician obtained local lodgings for us, and Dr. Olson and I then went to a restaurant for a Thanksgiving dinner, after which we went to bed. During the period covered by this paragraph, Dr. Olson told me he felt he had cheated the Government in connection with his retirement from the Army, and that he should be punished for this. (I am not familiar with the details of what he was referring to, but both Dr. Olson's Division Chief and the New York physician had indicated to me that they could see nothing dishonest or morally questionable in connection with his retirement.) Dr. Olson said everyone, including me, was in a plot to "get" him; he said I and the others knew the master plan for the plot, and he wanted to know what it was. He said he had failed in his job, that he was so disgraced he could not face returning to his family. He said he felt he was guilty of security violations because he felt he on occasions had exceeded his interpretation of the need-to-know principle. Except in certain well defined areas he spoke intelligently and rationally, and he acted in a socially acceptable manner.

The following morning (Friday) we drove with the physician to his New York office. There we had a conference during which the physician told Dr. Olson that hospitalization would be in his best interests. After a while Dr. Olson agreed. Dr. Olson preferred some place near his home and friends, so after discussion and a telephone conference with my Division Chief, a private hospital near Washington was selected. The physician made arrangements with the hospital, but they had to prepare his room and could not take Dr. Olson until the following day (Saturday). Dr. Olson agreed he would be a voluntary patient (it was agreed he would not be formally committed).

We could obtain no reservations for a return to Washington that day, so we made reservations for Saturday morning and checked into the Statler Hotel. At this time and for the remainder of the evening, Dr. Olson appeared no longer particularly depressed, and almost the Dr. Olson I knew prior to the experiment, although he still maintained the various misconceptions I have mentioned before. He washed out his dirty clothing, and when I called his Division Chief to clear our proposed course of action with him, Dr. Olson talked to him in a

cheerful manner and happily anticipated meeting him at the Washington Airport upon our arrival there. On his own volition he telephoned his wife (this was the first time he felt he dared speak to her). At about 1830 we went to the hotel's main cocktail lounge and each had two martinis. At 2000 we entered the main dining room and had dinner, leaving for our room at 2200. At both the cocktail lounge and the dining room he was cheerful and appeared to enjoy the entertainment. He spoke freely of the hospitalization the following day, and indicated he wanted books from home to study, and other things he wanted to do while hospitalized. (The physician had assured him he could do this, and had said he would help outline some activities of mutual scientific interest Dr. Olson could work on.)

After returning to our room, we watched television for a while, then Dr. Olson suggested bed, saying he felt more relaxed and contented than he had since we came to New York. He asked the hotel telephone operator to call us at a specified time in the morning (so we could make our plane).. I would guess it was a little after 2300 when we retired.

Somewhere around 0230 Saturday morning I was awakened by a loud noise. Dr. Olson had crashed through the closed window blind and the closed window and he fell to his death from the window of our room on the tenth floor of the Statler Hotel. Later in the day I officially identified the body for the New York authorities.


ROBERT V. LASHERCOCK

7 December 1953

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

19

9 December 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Record

SUBJECT : Frank R. Olson

I have compiled and reviewed all the information available to the Agency relating to the death of Dr. Frank R. Olson. It is my conclusion that the death of Dr. Olson is the result of circumstances arising out of an experiment undertaken in the course of his official duties for the U. S. Government and that there is, therefore, a direct causal connection between that experiment and his death. I have been authorized by the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence to state that this is the official position of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Lawrence R. Houston

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON
General Counsel

NOTICE.—Read carefully instructions on the back before executing this affidavit

Franklin D. Roosevelt
(President of the United States)
SS:

I, Alice Smith Wicks Olson, being duly sworn, on oath say that I am residing at RED 22, city of Frederick, county of Frederick and State of Maryland; that on the 28th day of November, 1953, my Husband, Frank Rudolph Olson had personal domicile in and was a resident of the city of Frederick, county of Frederick, and State of Maryland and on said day died intestate; that burial expenses amounting to Six-hundred and ninety-three dollars (\$ 693.50) were incurred, as per original itemized bills herewith; that the amount of None dollars (\$ 0.00) has been paid on such burial expenses by None from funds belonging to None and that there is a balance of Six-hundred and ninety-three dollars and fifty cents (\$ 693.50) remaining unpaid.

(Here the affiant must state specific facts as indicated by instructions on back of this form)

Surviving dependents are:

Widow - Alice Smith Wicks Olson

Son - Eric Wicks Olson

Son - Wils Wicks Olson

Daughter - Lisa Wicks Olson

Deceased served in the military or naval forces of the United States as follows: ASN O-309341
March 20, 1942 - April 18, 1944, inclusive. Chemical Warfare Service
(If none, so state; otherwise give organization, period of service, and Army serial number, if known)

A claim Will Not be made to the Veterans' Administration for burial expenses; that at the time of said decease compensation Was due said decedent from the Bureau of Employees' Compensation, and that there has been no administration, and if any amounts payable under the Employees' Compensation Act be paid, no administration will be required.

(Signature must be in ink or indelible pencil. A signature by mark must be witnessed by two persons)
Alice Smith Wicks Olson

SWORN to by said Alice Smith Wicks Olson before me, and subscribed in my presence this day, at my office in said city. And I certify that said affiant is personally well known to me to be the identical person who represents said decedent in the relationship stated, and that said affiant is a credible person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I hereunto subscribe my name and affix my notarial seal this 22nd day of November, 1953.

[Seal]

21
AFFIDAVIT RELATING TO REPRESENTATIONS OF DECEASED EMPLOYEES
TO BE SENT TO FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY, BUREAU OF EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION,
Washington 25, D. C.

NOTICE.—Read carefully instructions on the back before executing this affidavit.

Frederick, Maryland
(State or Territory where executed)

SS:

I, Alice Smith Wicks Olson, being duly sworn, on oath say that I am residing at RED #5, city of Frederick, county of Frederick and State of Maryland; that on the 29th day of November, 1953, my Husband, Frank Rudolph Olson had personal domicile in and was a resident of the city of Frederick, county of Frederick, and State of Maryland and on said day died intestate; that burial expenses amounting to Six hundred and ninety three dollars and fifty cents (\$ 693.50) were incurred, as per original itemized bills herewith; that the amount of None dollars (\$) has been paid on such burial expenses by from funds belonging to and that there is a balance of Six hundred and ninety three dollars and fifty cents (\$ 693.50) remaining unpaid.

(Here the affiant must state specific facts as indicated by instructions on back of this form.)

Surviving dependents are:

Widow - Alice Smith Wicks Olson

Son - Eric Wicks Olson

Son - Mila Wicks Olson

Daughter - Lisa Wicks Olson

Deceased served in the military or naval forces of the United States as follows: ASN O-309341
March 20, 1942 - April 13, 1944, inclusive. Chemical Warfare Service
(If none, so state; otherwise give organization, period of service, and Army serial number, if known)

A claim Will Not be made to the Veterans' Administration for burial expenses; that at the time of said decease compensation Was due said decedent from the Bureau of Employees' Compensation, and that there has been no administration, and if any amounts payable under the Employees' Compensation Act be paid, no administration will be required.

(Signature must be in ink or indelible pencil. A signature by mark must be witnessed by two persons.)

Alice Smith Wicks Olson

Sworn to by said Alice Smith Wicks Olson before me, and subscribed in my presence this day, at my office in said city. And I certify that said affiant is personally well known to me to be the identical person who represents said decedent in the relationship stated, and that said affiant is a credible person. In witness whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and seal this day of , 1953.

[SEAL]

CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION ON ACCOUNT OF DEATH

THIS FORM IS TO BE FILLED OUT BY THE PERSON ENTITLED TO COMPENSATION OR HIS DULY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE. IT SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE DEATH CERTIFICATE AND A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE ADOPTION CERTIFICATE, IF THE DECEASED EMPLOYEE WAS ADOPTED. IT SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE DEATH CERTIFICATE AND A CERTIFIED COPY OF THE ADOPTION CERTIFICATE, IF THE DECEASED EMPLOYEE WAS ADOPTED.

The persons to whom compensation may be paid are:

- (a) The widow who was living with or dependent for support upon the deceased employee at the time of his death.
- (b) The unmarried minor child or children of the deceased employee, dependent upon him at the time of his death.
- (c) The unmarried children under 18, and those over 18 who are incapable of self-support.
- (d) Parents partially or wholly dependent upon the deceased employee for support.
- (e) Unmarried brothers, sisters, or grandchildren under 18 years of age, and those over 18 who are incapable of self-support, and who were wholly or partially dependent upon the deceased employee.
- (f) Grandparents wholly or partially dependent upon the deceased employee.

Under the law, the term "child" includes stepchildren, adopted children, and posthumous children, but does not include married children. The terms "brother" and "sister" include stepbrothers and stepsisters, half brothers and half sisters, and brothers and sisters by adoption, but do not include married brothers or sisters. All of the above terms and the term "grandchild" include only persons who at the time of the death of the deceased employee are under 18 years of age or over that age and incapable of self-support. The term "parent" includes step-parents and parents by adoption. The term "widower" includes only the decedent's wife living with or dependent for support upon him at the time of his death. The term "widow" includes only the decedent's husband dependent for support upon her at the time of her death. The terms "adopted" and "adoption" as used in this law include only legal adoption prior to the time of the injury.

The claim should be signed by the person making the claim or his duly authorized representative. There should be given the names and addresses of all persons who may be entitled to compensation on account of death, together with the address of the person making the claim, which should be sworn to by the person entitled to compensation, or by the person authorized to act on his behalf.

Oaths of claimants residing in foreign countries should be made before a United States consular officer or secretary of legation or, if before a local official, a certificate of such United States consular official or secretary of legation showing the authority of the local official to administer oaths should be annexed.

A certified copy of the death certificate should accompany this claim. If, for any reason, it cannot be secured, give full explanation at the bottom of this sheet.

If the relationship to the decedent of any person entitled to claim compensation is that of adoption, a certified copy of the order of adoption should accompany this claim.

Itemized bills in duplicate covering the medical and burial expenses should be submitted with the claim.

1. Full name of deceased employee Frank Rudolph Olson
2. Age 43 3. Sex M 4. Occupation Supervisory Biochemist
5. Was deceased able to speak English? Yes 6. If not, what language?
7. Time of injury: (a) November (Month); (b) 22 (Date); (c) 1953 (Year); (d) 2:30 a.m. (Hour, a.m. or p.m.)
8. Place where injury occurred Hotel Statler, New York City, New York
(Place or establishment, as "post office", "navy yard", etc.)
9. Nature and extent of injury Multiple fractures, shock, and hemorrhage resulting in death.
10. Date of death 26 November 1953
11. Place where death occurred Statler Hotel, New York City, New York
12. Rate of pay of deceased employee at time of injury which resulted in death, \$ 2200.00 per annum and subsistence valued at \$ per
13. Relationship to the deceased of the person claiming to be entitled to compensation wife
14. Did deceased leave any other relatives entitled to compensation? Yes If so, give names, addresses, ages, and relationship below.

(See instructions at top of form for classes of persons entitled to compensation)

Name	Address	Age	Relationship
<u>Eric Wicks Olson</u>	<u>R.F.D. #5, Frederick, Md.</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>Son</u>
<u>Lisa Wicks Olson</u>	<u>R.F.D. #5, Frederick, Md.</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>Daughter</u>
<u>Mila Wicks Olson</u>	<u>R.F.D. #5, Frederick, Md.</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>Son</u>

I HEREBY CERTIFY that each and every statement set forth above is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Name: Alice Wicks Olson
ALICE WICKS OLSON

County of Frederick } ss: Frederick Maryland
State of Maryland } (City) (State)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 14 day of December, 1953

REC-DEC 17 1953

William S. Davis
(Signature of official administering oath)
Commissioner of Social Security Administration
Washington, D.C.

PHYSICIAN'S CERTIFICATE

1. Full name of deceased employee
2. Date on which employee was attended by you
3. Date of employee's death, 19
4. Direct cause of death
5. Contributory cause of death
6. Was history of injury given in this case? If so, state it briefly
7. In your opinion, was the death of the employee due to such injury?
8. Remarks:

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the answers to the above questions are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

(Signature of certifying physician)

Address:
(Street and number)

(City) (State)

Date of this certificate,, 19

It is important that above certificate be furnished, but if for any cause it cannot be secured, give full explanation below and submit such other proof of death as may be obtainable.

CERTIFICATE OF OFFICIAL SUPERIOR

(If report of death on Form No. C.A. 3 has not been forwarded to the Bureau, such report should be made and accompany this claim for compensation)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the person on account of whose death the foregoing claim is made was employed by the United States when injured and official report of death was made on 28 November 1955
(Date)

(If any circumstances have arisen which after the completion stated in the official report of death, or if the official superior disagrees with any of the statements made in the claim for compensation, it is requested that a full explanatory statement be made below.)

Remarks:

Signed by 14th day of December, 1955

at San Antonio, Texas

by Col. J. B. ...

14 December 1953

Antioch

(23)

CONVERSATION WITH GIBBONS:

1. Lovell has not heard anything from Gibbons.
2. Lovell reported that Quarles and George Marek were about to kill the Schwab activity at Detrick as "un-American". Is it necessary to take action at a high place?
3. Lovell knew of Frank R. Olson. No inhibitions. Baring of inner man. Suicidal tendencies. Offensive usefulness? HMC told Shef Edwards Saturday AM, the 12th.

*Conv. 15 Dec. in HMC's office -
No act on HMC's part unless requested*

cc: McMahon

Gibbons & Quarles at Detrick.

(24)

14 December 1953

Bureau of Employees' Compensation
Department of Labor
Washington-25, D.C.

ATTENTION: Mr. Clyde R. Middleton

Dear Sir:

This is to inform you that I wish to apply for
the benefits due me under the provisions of the Federal
Employees' Compensation Act in lieu of the Civil Service
Retirement Act.

Very truly yours,

Alice Wickes Olson

ALICE WICKES OLSON
R.F.D. #5
Frederick, Maryland

*Miss Wetzel of Civil Service
Com. (Case 171, Oct 1951)
says no claim for Civil
Service rec'd from which
to furnish CSC with a true
copy of this letter
would*

25
File No. X-856287
Frank Rudolph Olson

December 17, 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Dr. Franklin J. Halpin, the Bureau's Medical Director, and I, have personally reviewed the classified records of the Central Intelligence Agency which contain all particulars of the circumstances leading up to and attendant upon the death of the decedent on November 28, 1953.

Such material is highly sensitive and is of a nature which if divulged might seriously affect the national security. Such information is found sufficient to show that the condition responsible for self-destruction was proximately due to conditions of his employment and the claim of the widow is allowed. This decision was reached after obtaining the oral opinion of Dr. Halpin that from a medical standpoint there was a very definite connection between the illness and the act of self-destruction.

R. Middleton
R. Middleton
Deputy Director

CRM:lc

26
EYES ONLY

10 December 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: The Suicide of Frank Olsen

1. Attached are the complete files on this case which have been compiled jointly by the General Counsel and this office. A review of these files plus our conversations with Dr. Aronson, the psychiatrist involved in the case, and Dr. H. Marshall Chadwell, AD/ISI, who received a full description of the case from Stanley Lovell, indicates certain matters that should be attended to before the case is closed. It further should be noted that on 17 December, some 23 days after the event, Dr. Gibbons and Col. Drun came to see the undersigned to report that Dr. Gibbons had just learned that Col. Drun knew of the experiment in advance and had given his approval to Dr. Gottlieb to conduct it on an unwitting basis.

2. These conclusions can be drawn from the facts in this case:

a. The drug used has also been used fairly extensively in experiments and in psychiatric treatments conducted both for the benefit of the Agency and private practice.

b. The amount of drug used was only 1/7 of what has been used without ill effects.

c. Although Dr. Gottlieb knew all of the individuals who received the drug, he obviously was not aware of their medical records. Therefore, only one individual was excluded from the experiment because of a heart condition. Gottlieb was not aware that over a period of five years Olsen had apparently had a suicidal tendency.

d. It is apparent that there is a strong possibility that the drug was a trigger mechanism precipitating Olsen's suicide.

e. With the exception of the gaining of concurrence of the Deputy Chief of ISI, no mechanism was available or utilized for getting approval for an experiment in which human lives could possibly be jeopardized.

f. Uncontrolled experiments such as these conducted by ISI could seriously affect the record and reputation of the Agency.

g. Although there is an Artichoke committee on which ISI, OSI and Security sit, this committee was never advised or consulted about this experiment.

h. Using employees of another agency could seriously jeopardize our relationship with that and all other agencies should this become known.

2. Recommendations:

a. There should be immediately established a high-level intra-Agency board which should review all TSS experiments and give approval in advance to any in which human beings are involved, and to all others involving matters of policy or large amounts of money.

b. The Deputy Chief TSS should be reprimanded for his poor judgment shown in this instance and consideration should be given as to whether this individual should continue in his present position.

c. Chief TSS should be admonished to exercise tighter supervision and control over the use of this drug and should render periodic reports to D/P on its use and the result.

Lyman Kirkpatrick
Lyman T. Kirkpatrick
Inspector General

We concur generally in the above recommendation

Wk
78W

(27)

To: Mr. Hunter, _____
From: Cyril R. Minnison _____

1. History obtained at initial examination and during the course of treatment.
2. His personal knowledge of the decedent, particularly his personality pattern prior to the acute illness.
3. Complaints and findings (subjective as well as objective), including laboratory examinations.
4. Clinical course of condition during the period of observation and treatment.
5. Diagnoses.
6. If this is an acute psychosis, opinion as to relationship, if any, to the work in which he was engaged. We should like a full and complete discussion of the situation, with reasoned explanation for any opinion expressed. If practicable, citations from medical literature in support of expressed opinion would be appreciated.
7. Any other information considered pertinent to the question of relationship between the work and the illness responsible for the death.
8. Opinion as to mental competence in connection with VA

December 21, 1953

7-566287

Mrs. Alice Wicks Olson
R.F.D. #5
Frederick, Maryland

Dear Mrs. Olson:

Reference is made to your claim for compensation on account of the death of your husband, Dr. Frank E. Olson.

The Bureau finds that you are entitled to \$525.00 per month, the maximum compensation that can be paid in any case, being \$280.00 on your own behalf plus \$245.00 on behalf of the three children on a share and share alike basis.

Compensation on your own account will be paid until your death or remarriage. Compensation on account of each of your three minor children will cease when they die, marry, or reach the age of eighteen.

The sum of \$55.00 is being certified to the United States Treasury for payment to you, representing compensation benefits, as explained above, covering the period from November 29 to November 30, 1953, inclusive. A check in this amount should be received by you within the near future. Payments for the period commencing December 1, 1953 will be in the sum of \$525.00 per month and should be received by you shortly after the last day of each month.

There is enclosed herewith a copy of claims for continuance of compensation, Form CA-12 for yourself and Form CA-13 on account of the children. You are requested to complete and submit one of each of the forms on the first day of each January and July to cover the six-month period immediately preceding such date.

In order that the burial allowance may be disbursed, the Bureau should be furnished with original itemized bills covering all burial expenses incurred. The bills should show the separate

(29)

Nº 38321

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Register's Office
Dane County

} ss.

To all to Whom These Presents Shall Come:

I, Miles C. Piley Jr., Register of

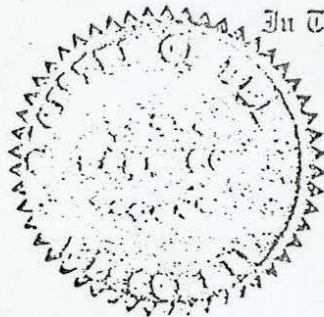
Deeds of the County of Dane, in the State of Wisconsin, do hereby certify that the annexed copy of

Marriage Record of Frank P. Olson & Alice S. Wicks

has been compared by me with the records of the original in this office.

Recorded in Volume 52 of Marriage Records, Page 287

and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole thereof.



In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my

official seal, at my office, in the City of Madison, this

22nd day of December

A. D. 1953.

Miles C. Piley Jr.
Register of Deeds.

*Rec'd 1-4-54
Clerk - P.E.C.*

Bad Xerox copy of Certificate
of marriage, State of Wisconsin,
936, for Frank Rudolph Olson and
Alice Smith Wicks, dated 5 Sept 1940

29 December 1953

Retirement Division
U. S. Civil Service Commission
Washington 25, D. C.

Gentlemen:

This is to inform you that as the widow of Frank Rudolph Olson, a former employee of the Chemical Corps, Department of the Army, Camp Detrick, Frederick, Maryland, I have been accorded benefits by the Department of Labor under the Federal Employer's Compensation Act for the death of my husband.

I therefore wish to withdraw the sum due me under the Civil Service Retirement System and am attaching the required form hereto.

Yours truly,

Alice Hicks Olson

Alice Hicks Olson
RFD 5
Frederick, Md.

Incl--Form SF 100 in duplicate
1 copy of death certificate

32

RFD 5
Frederick, Maryland
29 December 1953

Bureau of Employees' Compensation
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Clyde R. Middleton
Deputy Director

Gentlemen:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter--File No. X-866287 dated 21 December 1953. I wish to thank you for the prompt action taken on my claim for compensation on account of the death of my husband, Frank R. Olson.

I have obtained the required certified true copy of my marriage certificate and forwarded it to your office via separate cover and trust it has reached you by this time.

I also wish to inform you that I have not and do not intend to file claim with the Veterans Administration for death benefits. I also enclose a copy of a letter sent to the Retirement Division, U. S. Civil Service Commission informing them of the approval of my claim and requesting permission to withdraw the monies accrued under the Civil Service Retirement System.

Enclosed you will find the following:

- a. Completed copies of CAF 12 and CAF 13.
- b. Completed and notarized copies of CAF 42 and CAF 43 together with and itemized bill for funeral expenses. I am told that these constitute a claim for reimbursement in the amount of \$494.00 to the undertaker in payment of a portion of the funeral expenses.

I again wish to express my appreciation for your interest,

Very truly yours,

Alice Wicks Olson

Alice Wicks Olson

Incls.

33

100-75500

4 January 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Inspector General

SUBJECT : Frank R. Olson

1. I have been informed by Dr. Lashbrook that Mrs. Olson has been notified of a favorable ruling on compensation by the Bureau of Employees Compensation. I have forwarded the final papers to the Bureau and, consequently, believe this case is closed so far as the General Counsel's Office is concerned. It is possible that we may be called on to help in connection with the Veterans Administration on the lapsed life insurance policy, but I trust any such help will be in the form of advice rather than action.

2. My comments on this case are fairly simple. There is no dispute as to the facts. All agree on how the experiment was carried out and on the succeeding events as they relate to Dr. Olson. The implications are in dispute. It is, of course, perfectly possible that the suicide grew out of a pre-existing state which was not affected by the experiment. However, we have taken the position officially that the experiment at least "triggered" the suicide, and, as all the facts tend to support this conclusion, we should accept it as final. In any case this has been the position from the start of Dr. Gottlieb and Dr. Lashbrook, yet these two, supported by Dr. Gibbons, are insistent that it is practically impossible for this drug to have any harmful after effects. These two positions are, to me, completely inconsistent.

3. If the drug "triggered" the suicide, ergo the trigger itself is inherently dangerous under certain circumstances. Therefore, I am not happy with what seems to me a very casual attitude on the part of TSS representatives to the way this experiment was conducted and to their remarks that this is just one of the risks running with scientific experimentation. I do not eliminate the need for taking risks, but I do believe, especially when human health or life is at stake, that at least

the prudent reasonable measures which can be taken to minimize the risk must be taken and failure to do so is culpable negligence. The actions of the various individuals concerned when the effects of the experiment on Dr. Olson became manifest also revealed the failure to observe normal and reasonable precautions. The offices of the Agency charged with the responsibility for matters of this sort, particularly the Security Office and the Medical Staff, were not informed, although we were informed that the TSS representatives were deeply concerned over the security aspects and actually referred Dr. Olson to Dr. Abramson for medical treatment. As a result a death occurred which might have been prevented, and the Agency as a whole, and particularly the Director, were caught completely by surprise in a most embarrassing manner.

13/
LAWRENCE R. ECUSTON
General Counsel

1 Att - Complete background
material on subject

OGC:LRH:jcb

cc: OGC ✓

RETYPE FOR CLARITY

79
TO--

1. Mr. Wisner-Personally
2. Mr. Helms-Personally

FROM--

1. IG

REMARKS:

Frank-Dick: The DCI has reviewed the attached file and discussed the same with me including my recommendations. On my suggestion he has asked me to forward the file to you for recommendations as to action to be taken--and suggests that this be given to him within a weeks time. Please restrict the case to yourselves, as to this date the knowledgeable persons are: Dulles, Cabell, Kirkpatrick, Houston, Edwards, *, Fields and yourselves. Those involved, of course, were Gibbons, Drum, Lashbrook, Gottlieb, and Hughes.

L. B. K.

* CIA Officer

UNCLASSIFIED RESTRICTED CONFIDENTIAL
(Sender will circle classification top and bottom)

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO—	INITIALS	DATE
1 <i>MR. WISNER - PERSONALLY</i>		
2 <i>MRS. HELMS - PERSONALLY</i>	<i>Wt</i>	<i>7 Jan</i>
3		
4		
5		

FROM—	INITIALS	DATE
1 <i>I.G.</i>	<i>for</i>	<i>6 Jan</i>
2		
3		

☐ APPROVAL ☐ INFORMATION ☐ SIGNATURE
☐ ACTION ☐ DIRECT REPLY ☐ RETURN
☐ COMMENT ☐ PREPARATION OF REPLY ☐ DISPATCH
☐ CONCURRENCE ☐ RECOMMENDATION ☐ FILE

Remarks: *Frank - Dick: The D31 has reviewed the attached file and discussed it with me including my recommendations. In my suggestion he has asked me to forward the file to you for recommendation as to action to be taken - and suggest that they be given to him earlier within a week time. Please return to the office.*

CONFIDENTIAL RESTRICTED UNCLASSIFIED

SEP 1947 00-4

16-87793-1 GPO

to yourself, with this state
the knowledgeable persons are:
Dulles, Gates, Kuchel, Wosten,
Edwards, * Fields and
yourself. Those involved,
of course, were Bittens,
Dunn, Lusk, Lusk, Lusk,
& Hughes.

Bro

* CIA Officer

11 January 1954

LASHEROCK, Doctor Robert V.
#49418

2. The above mentioned Subject was in the company of Mr. Frank R. Olson, SSN #98450, a Department of the Army employee who committed suicide in New York City during November 1953. At that time, certain information was given to the local police authorities and it is the desire of the Agency that Subject's connection with CIA not be revealed in any investigation arising out of the suicide of Olson. Olson's widow has filed a claim with her insurance company for double indemnity as a result of her husband's death. It is anticipated that this insurance company will make a complete investigation of the circumstances of the suicide and will probably attempt to interview Mr. Lashbrook and perhaps some of Olson's co-workers.

4. Dr. Lashbrook was interviewed on 30 December 1953 by a representative of this Division regarding what backstopping was needed to fit in with the statement he had given the New York police. At that time, Dr. Lashbrook stated that he desired that backstopping be made to the Department of the Army, G-4, Research & Development Division, Development Branch with Col. Bjarnay Furuholmen and Lt. Col. Jackson Lawrence. These individuals are contacts of the Technical Services Staff of CIA. Dr. Lashbrook stated that he did not desire to be backstopped at Camp Detrick as he felt that that would only draw attention to the installation.

5. It is the opinion of this Division that backstopping in the manner suggested by Dr. Lashbrook would be inadequate and would only serve to arouse the curiosity of additional persons in the Department of the Army, who at this point, have no knowledge of the circumstances of the incident which occurred in New York.

[illegible]

6. Major General E. J. Bullene, Commanding General, Chemical Corps, U. S. Army; Col. Vincent Ruwet, Commanding Officer, Army Biological Center, Camp Detrich, Maryland and Major Max Itkin, Security Officer, Camp Detrich, Maryland are all fully cognizant of the facts in this case.

7. The individuals mentioned in the above paragraph are all cleared for Top Secret liaison by the Security Control Staff of CIA.

8. It has been brought to the attention of this office that the U. S. Army is conducting an independent investigation into the circumstances of Mr. Olson's death and it can be presumed that the Army investigators have become aware of Mr. Lashbrook's clandestine relationship to CIA.

9. On the basis of this information, it is recommended that Mr. Lashbrook's employment be backstopped through the office of General Bullene, Commanding General, Chemical Corps, U. S. Army.

10. It is further recommended that Col. Vincent Ruwet and Major Max Itkin, the Security Officer of Camp Detrich, Maryland be contacted and advised that any inquiry regarding Dr. Lashbrook should be referred directly to the office of General Bullene and that the Security Office of CIA should be notified of the inquiry.

11. It is believed that this type backstopping is the simplest and most secure under the circumstances. Dr. Lashbrook's belief that to backstop him in any way with Camp Detrich, Maryland would call attention to that installation is not deemed sound as it is a natural thing for a chemist to be associated with an installation such as the Army Biological Center at Camp Detrich and that fact should not create undue interest. It is believed that backstopping through the Logistics Office of the Army would be inconsistent with Dr. Lashbrook's background and might create an undue interest insofar as an insurance investigation is concerned.

12. The Security Officer, Technical Services Staff advised a representative of this Division in confidence that he felt that the backstopping with G-4 of the Army would not be compatible with Dr. Lashbrook's background. However, he had been requested by Dr. Lashbrook and Dr. Gottlieb of Technical Services Staff to offer this G-4 contact of TSS as a possible backstopping medium.

13. If you concur in these arrangements, the Cover Branch of TSS will undertake to implement them on an expedite basis.

Robert H. Cunningham

Director of Security

19 January 1954

Chief, Special Security Division

LASHROOK, Robert V., Dr.
549413

1. Pursuant to the instructions of the Director of Security, a representative of this Division contacted Dr. Sidney Gottlieb, Chief, Chemical Branch, Research & Development Division, Technical Services Staff at his office, Room 2A01 Quarters I on 15 January 1954. Dr. Gottlieb was questioned as to what backstopping would be most feasible concerning the above subject and as to his position on utilizing Camp Detrich, Maryland.

2. Dr. Gottlieb advised that he would prefer to have the Subject backstopped through Col. Bjarne Furuholmen of the Research & Development Division, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4, U. S. Army.

3. On the basis of Dr. Gottlieb's preference, a representative of this Division accompanied by Subject, contacted Col. Bjarne Furuholmen, Chief, Research & Development Division, Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4, U. S. Army at his office, Room 3B452, The Pentagon Building, telephone 5-6700, extension 15445 on 19 January 1954. Cover arrangements for Subject were laid on with Col. Furuholmen and also with his deputy, Lt. Col. Jackson Lawrence.

4. The cover story which was arranged for was that Subject is employed as an intermittent consultant by Col. Furuholmen's office and has been in this capacity for approximately 2 1/2 years. The nature of his duties are chemical research on classified material and he reports directly to Col. Furuholmen.

5. Both Col. Furuholmen and Col. Lawrence were advised that the reason for this was that Subject had been a witness to a suicide in New York City during the latter part of November 1953 and it was anticipated that an insurance investigation might come about as a result of policies carried on the life of the suicide victim. It was the desire of this Agency that Subject not be identified with CIA and that the Agency should receive no publicity as a result of this incident. Col. Furuholmen advised that he would extend complete cooperation in this matter and that should

ESD 254
Col. 254
A. 254
B. 254

any inquiry be made to him, he would handle the matter and as soon as possible, notify Mr. Lashbrook of the incident.

6. The indices of the Security Office were checked prior to the interview with Col. Faruholm and revealed that both he and Col. Lawrence were cleared for top secret liaison by the Security Control Staff on 13 October 1953.

7. No further action is anticipated in this case and it is being considered as closed in this Division.

Robert H. Cunningham

*MP
H. Lashbrook*

37
2 February 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. DULLES

VIA : Gen. Cabell

1. I have just been advised of the proposed action to be taken in the case of Messrs. Drum and Gottlieb and feel that in view of my position and responsibilities, it is my duty to express an opinion in this matter.

2. I feel that a formal reprimand in this case would be an injustice since reprimands are applicable to those guilty of negligence, disloyalty, or willful acts detrimental to an organization, rather than to those involved in difficult circumstances caused by mischance or factors beyond our control. In this case, I believe that both men concerned acted in good faith and with the desire to advance their work. Whether they lacked the foresight or wisdom to grasp all the possibilities that might occur is, of course, debatable.

3. If such action were taken in the tradition of the sea where the commander is automatically at fault in case of failure, then it would be in order to apply the reprimand to both Dr. Gibbons and myself.

4. I sincerely hope that this matter will be again reviewed, not only in the interest of justice, but also in the interest of maintaining the spirit of initiative and enthusiasm so necessary to our work.

LUIS deFLOREZ
Research Chairman

TSS/OC:ldef/jel (2 February 1954)

Memo for Record: Original returned to Wm deFlorez on 10 Feb, w/note from Gen Cabell (on the cover sheet) as follows:
"Your request acceded to."

km.

38

HAROLD A. ABRAMSON, M. D.
133 EAST 58th STREET
NEW YORK 22, NEW YORK

February 9, 1954

Dear Mr

For your information and files I am enclosing
a case report which might be of interest.

Yours sincerely,

Harold A. Abramson, M. D.

HAA/nb

CASE REPORT ON PATIENT JOHN Q. SMITH

I was called in consultation to see Mr. John Q. Smith about ten days after Mr. Smith had received 70 micrograms by mouth in a highly protected situation. Mr. Smith, although agitated and concerned over his relationships in work situations, related very well to his friends, to me, and to community problems in general. It appeared that Mr. Smith had profound guilt feelings because he had been retired as an officer during the last war and was drawing a pension. His intense feelings of guilt resulted from receiving government money to which he felt that he was not entitled. These feelings were not eliminated by his realistic understanding that he had appeared before a retirement board. A strong feeling of inadequacy dominated his present work. He felt that he was not doing as good a job as he thought he should even though he was thought well of by his colleagues and promotions had come readily. In several hours of interviewing for a period of two days his agitation could not be directly linked with a psychotic state until he said that his sleeplessness had been caused by the FBI who had surreptitiously been placing amphetamine or caffeine in his food at night to keep him awake. These feelings of having drugs being placed in his food had been present for at least five months before he had received his therapeutic dose of 70 micrograms. He also disclosed that he had shown bizarre behavior for nine months before so that his wife thought he needed medical attention. This led to an outpouring of an intense desire on his part to be punished by the authorities for his past conduct of taking money fraudulently from the government following his retirement by an Army board.

Subsequent discussion with the patient and an accompanying friend led to his agreeing to entering a mental institution. Different hospitals were discussed. He chose one near his home and appeared to be relieved that some decision had been made to take care of his problems. Accompanied by his friend who shared the same room with him he went to a hotel for the night because the hospital chosen was distant and he could not be accepted at once. In the middle of the night without any warning he plunged head-first through a heavy glass window shattering it and fell to his death on the pavement below.

Information subsequently received revealed that he had discussed suicide frequently during the previous year and to the best of my information had been talked out of suicide twice. In my opinion Mr. Smith had been suffering for some time with a paranoid type of depressive psychosis which, although reluctantly recognized by his family and friends, had not received adequate medical care. It is my opinion, also, in view of my experience with various ambulatory types of subjects, that this dosage could hardly have had any significant role in the course of events which followed.

39

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Heins

10 Feb.

Done 11 Feb. 54

mt

Please hand carry
to Hibbons
Dunn
Hottel.

Have them note having
read + return to Kirk
for Eyes Only file. These are
not reprimands + no personnel
file notation being ~~made~~.

CPC



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

FEB 10 1954

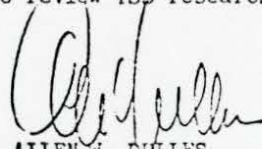
"EYES ONLY"

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Technical Services Staff

SUBJECT : Unwitting Application of LSD

1. This is to advise you that I consider the unwitting application of LSD in an experiment with which you are familiar to be an indication of bad judgment on the part of two members of your staff: James H. Drum and Dr. Sidney Gottlieb.

2. The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you officially of this conclusion and to advise you to take all appropriate steps to insure a thorough and careful review within TSS of all experiments. The Deputy Director (Plans) has been instructed to constitute a review board composed of the appropriate officials from within the Agency periodically to review TSS research and experiments.


ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

100-1
11-2-54



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

FEB 10 1954

PERSONAL

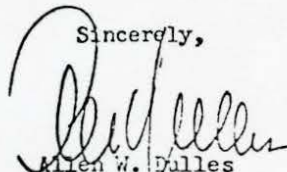
Colonel James H. Drum
Chief, Technical Operations
Technical Services Staff


Dear Colonel Drum:

I have personally reviewed the case in which your staff employed the use of a drug on a group of subjects not entirely witting that such an experiment was to be made on themselves. It is my view that poor judgment was demonstrated by you in authorizing the use of this drug on such an unwitting basis and without proximate medical safeguards.

This is to advise you that in the position of responsibility which you hold you are expected to exercise greater judgment than was indicated in this case.

Sincerely,


Allen W. Dulles
Director


11 Feb 54



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

FEB 10 1954

PERSONAL

Dr. Sidney Gottlieb
Chief, Chemical Division
Technical Services Staff

Dear Dr. Gottlieb:

I have personally reviewed the files from your office concerning the use of a drug on an unwitting group of individuals. In recommending the unwitting application of the drug to your superior, you apparently did not give sufficient emphasis to the necessity for medical collaboration and for proper consideration of the rights of the individual to whom it was being administered. This is to inform you that it is my opinion that you exercised poor judgment in this case.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Allen W. Dulles".
Allen W. Dulles
Director

4.8. Feb 11, 1954

(40)

1. Memorandum to Inspector General from General Counsel, 4 Jan. 1954.
2. Memorandum to DCI from Inspector General, 18 Dec. 1953.
3. Report of Termination of Total or Partial Disability, 14 Dec. 1953.
4. Official Superior's Report of Injury, 14 Dec. 1953.
5. Claim for Compensation on Account of Death, 14 Dec. 1953.
6. General Counsel Memorandum for Record, 9 Dec. 1953.
7. Observations on _____ 1951 - 1953, by Sidney Gottlieb, 7 Dec. 1953.
8. Observations on _____, by Robert V. Lashbrook, 7 Dec. 1953.
9. Observations on _____ from 24 November through 27 November 1953, by Harold A. Abramson, M.D., 4 Dec. 1953.
10. Memorandum to Chief, Investigative Division from Special Agent in Charge (Manhattan Field Office), 4 Dec. 1953.
11. Report of Investigation by Manhattan Field Office, 3 Dec. 1953.
12. Chronological Relationship with _____, by Dr. John L. Schwab (no date).
13. Memorandum To Whom It May Concern, by Lt. Col. Vincent L. Ruwet (no date).
14. Memorandum to Inspector General from Chief, I & R Staff, DD/P, 1 Dec. 1953.
15. Memorandum For The Record by Inspector General, 1 Dec. 1953.
16. Memorandum For The Record by Director of Security, 28 Nov. 1953.
17. Statement by Dr. Harold Abramson, Made Saturday, November 28, 1953.

REPORT OF TERMINATION OF TOTAL OR PARTIAL DISABILITY

(To be filled out by the U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, Bureau of Unemployment Compensation, Washington 25, D. C., through office of State or Federal agency, as soon as disability from injury is terminated. This form is to be submitted for each injury resulting in any disability, whether or not employee makes claim for compensation.)

1. Department Army 2. Bureau or office General Staff Corps
3. Place of employment Camp Detrick Frederick Maryland
(Street, apt., etc.) (City or town) (State)
4. Full name of injured employee _____
5. Time of injury _____, 19____ (Date) (Day of week) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
6. Time employee stopped work _____, 19____ (Date) (Day of week) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
7. Time employee's pay stopped _____, 19____ (Date) (Day of week) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
8. First day employee was able to resume work _____, 19____ (Date) (Day of week) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
9. Did employee return to the same work and at same rate of pay after termination of disability? _____
If so, when? _____ If not, state character of work performed upon return to duty and rate paid employee for such work _____
10. Actual time disabled (including Sundays and holidays) _____ days.
11. Number of days for which employee would have received pay had he not been disabled _____ days.
12. If employee was receiving subsistence as part of his wages, was such subsistence furnished during entire period of disability? _____ If not, give dates on which subsistence was not furnished _____
13. Has employee been paid for any portion of above absence on account of—
(a) Annual leave? _____ (Give exact dates)
(b) Sick leave? _____ (Give exact dates)
(c) Any other reason _____
14. Nature of injury _____
15. Remarks _____

[The following information is to be furnished only in case of death resulting from an injury sustained while in the performance of duty. If death results immediately, or if no Report of Injury has previously been submitted, such report, on Form C. A. 2, should be forwarded herewith.]

REPORT OF DEATH

16. Full name of deceased employee Frank R. Olson
17. Time of death 28 November, 1953 Saturday 2:30 a.m.
(Date) (Day of week) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
18. Time employee's pay stopped 21 November, 1953 Friday 4:30 P.m.
(Date) (Day of week) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
19. Place of death Statler Hotel New York City, New York
(Name of hospital, establishment, etc.) (City or town, and State)
20. Immediate cause of death Fractured vertebrae, shock, and immediate respiration from fall from tenth floor of hotel

21. Widow of deceased employee Alice W. Olson R.F.D., Fredericka Maryland
(Give full name.) (Address.)
22. Children of deceased employee under 18 years of age, or those over 18 who are incapable of self-support:

Name	Age
<u>Eric Wicks Olson</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>Lisa Wicks Olson</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Wils Wicks Olson</u>	<u>5</u>

23. Names, relationship, and addresses of all other persons known to be dependent, in any degree, upon decedent at time of death:

Name	Relationship	Address
<u>None</u>		

Signature of _____
at Camp Detrick, Fredericka, Maryland

J. H. Bennett
Special Agent in Charge, SO Division

Place of
employment

The injured
employee

The injury

1. Department Special Agent
2. Bureau office Frederick
3. Place of employment Frederick
4. Reporting office SO Division
5. Name of superintendent or foreman in charge when injury occurred Col. V. L. Frost
6. Name of injured employee Frank Rudolph Olson 7. Age 35 8. Sex M 9. Race W
10. Home address P.O. Box 25 Frederick Maryland
11. Occupation and division Supervisor, Lockheed, SO Division Was employee doing his regular work? Yes If not, what work?
12. Total length of service with the Government as a civilian? 8 1/2 years
13. How long at present work in this establishment? 6 1/2 years
14. Dates of other injuries 19 November 1953 is date of injury causing death on 23 Nov. 53
15. Rate of pay on date of injury, \$ 9800.00 per annum { and subsistence valued at \$..... per
and quarters valued at \$..... per
16. Employee begins work at 7:45 a.m. m. 17. Regular day work ends 4:30 p.m. m.
(Hour, a. m. or p. m.) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
18. Hours worked per day 8 19. Days per week 5
20. Place where injury occurred (death) Statler Hotel, New York City, N. Y.
(Give exact location, or name or name of building and division, etc.)
21. Date of injury (death) 23 November, 1953; day of week Saturday; hour of day 2:30 a.m.
(a. m. or p. m.)
22. Date employee stopped work 27 November, 1953; day of week Friday; hour of day 4:30 p.m.
(a. m. or p. m.)
23. Date employee's pay stopped 27 November, 1953; day of week Friday; hour of day 4:30 p.m.
(a. m. or p. m.)
24. Has employee returned to work? No (Give date and hour)
25. Will employee receive pay for any portion of above absence on account of
(a) Annual leave No (Give exact date)
(b) Sick leave No (Give exact date)
(c) Any other reason No (Give exact date)
26. Describe in full how injury occurred Jump or fall from tenth floor of hotel
27. State part of body injured and nature and extent of injury Multifractures, shock, and hemorrhage resulting in death
28. Did injury cause loss of any member or part of member? N.A. If so, describe exactly
29. Was employee injured while in performance of duty? If not, in doubt, give detailed statement
Death resulted from circumstances arising out of his official duties
30. Was injury caused by:
(a) Willful misconduct of the employee? (b) Intention of employee to bring about injury or death of himself or another? (c) Employee's intoxication?
(If any answers to these questions are made in the statement, the reporting officer should attach an additional statement giving the reasons for his conclusion.)
31. Was written notice of injury given within 48 hours? Yes If not, did immediate superior have actual knowledge of injury? (Answer to question 3, Form C. A. 1, must be complete if notice was not given within 48 hours)
32. Names and addresses of witnesses to injury Dr. Robert V. Johnson
1855 New Hampshire, N.Y.
Washington, D.C.
(If disability will continue for more than one day, have statements of witnesses on reverse side of this form.)
33. Was injury caused by a third party other than a Government employee? No If so, has employee been instructed in procedure under the Bureau's regulations? (A detailed statement should be prepared and submitted.)
34. Name and address of physician who first attended case Assistant Medical Examiner, New York City
35. How soon after injury? Immediately
36. To what hospital sent? Frederick Hospital Frederick, Maryland
37. Name and address of physician now attending case N.A.
Signed this 24 day of December, 1953
W. L. Frost

REPORT OF TERMINATION OF TOTAL OR PARTIAL DISABILITY

[To be forwarded to the U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, BUREAU OF EMPLOYERS' COMPENSATION, Washington 25, D. C. through official channels, as soon as disability from injury terminates. This form to be submitted for each injury resulting in any disability, whether or not employee makes claim for compensation.]

1. Department Army 2. Bureau or office Medical Corps
(War, Navy, etc.) (Engineer, Navigation, etc.)
3. Place of employment Camp Detrick Frederick Maryland
(War, Navy, etc.) (City or town) (State)
4. Full name of injured employee _____
5. Time of injury _____, 19____
(Date) (Day of week) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
6. Time employee stopped work _____, 19____
(Date) (Day of week) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
7. Time employee's pay stopped _____, 19____
(Date) (Day of week) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
8. First day employee was able to resume work _____, 19____
(Date) (Day of week) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
9. Did employee return to the same work and at same rate of pay after termination of disability? _____
If so, when? _____ If not, state character of work performed upon return to duty and rate paid employee for such work _____
10. Actual time disabled (including Sundays and holidays) _____ days.
11. Number of days for which employee would have received pay had he not been disabled _____ days.
12. If employee was receiving subsistence as part of his wages, was such subsistence furnished during entire period of disability? _____ If not, give dates on which subsistence was not furnished _____
13. Has employee been paid for any portion of above absence on account of—
(a) Annual leave? _____ (Give exact dates.)
(b) Sick leave? _____ (Give exact dates.)
(c) Any other reason _____
14. Nature of injury _____
15. Remarks _____

[The following information is to be furnished only in case of death resulting from an injury sustained while in the performance of duty. If death results immediately, or if no Report of Injury has previously been submitted, such report, on Form C. A. 2, should be forwarded herewith.]

REPORT OF DEATH

16. Full name of deceased employee Frank R. Olson
17. Time of death 23 November, 1953 Saturday 2:30 p. m.
(Date) (Day of week) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
18. Time employee's pay stopped 23 November, 1953 Friday 4:30 p. m.
(Date) (Day of week) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)
19. Place of death Statler Hotel New York City New York
(Name of hospital, establishment, etc.) (City or town, and State)
20. Immediate cause of death Heart disease, shock, and hemorrhage resulting from
fall from tenth floor of hotel
21. Widow of deceased employee Alice M. Olson R. F. Dry, Frederick Maryland
(Give full name.) (Address)
22. Children of deceased employee under 18 years of age, or those over 18 who are incapable of self-support:

Name.	Age.
<u>Erle Wicks Olson</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Alice Wicks Olson</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Mila Wicks Olson</u>	<u>5</u>

23. Names, relationship, and addresses of all other persons known to be dependent, in any degree, upon decedent at time of death:

Name	Relationship	Address

Signed this 11th day of December, 1953
at Camp Detrick, Frederick, Maryland

[Signature]
Col., Medical Corps, U. S. Army
(Title)

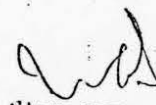
(44)

X-866287

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CASE FILE:

Mr. De Felice of CIA was contacted by telephone today re Civil Service request for information on their form RST 46-121. Such form indicates decedent was an employee of the Army at Camp Detrick.

De Felice said to hold up any reply until he had checked with his superiors and received approval.



Stevenson

3/17/54

Mr. De Felice called back on this date and said that we could correspond with Civil Service Commission on this case as long as refrained from associating the decedent with the Central Intelligence Agency.

mas 3/17/54

45

Excerpts from ID Diary -

8 December 1953

HOUSTON: reported that he had obtained a favorable ruling on the Olsen case from IEC.

10 & 11 December 1953

HOUSTON: discussed the Olsen case.

17 December 1954

DDCI: reviewed the Olsen case and advised I would submit it to him for disciplinary action.

17 December 1953

GIBSON: came with Drum to advise that Gottlieb had cleared with Drum, who was acting Chief TSG. Olsen case.

18 December 1953

EDWARDS and CHADWELL: advised me that Stanley Lowell had considerable information about the Olsen case.

22 December 1953

HOUSTON: asked him for papers on Olsen case.

25 January 1954

Meeting with GABELL, WISE R, and HEINS on Olsen case

2 February 1954

OLSON: told him to contact O'Brien to deliver material.

100-112

Excerpts from EG Diary -

30 November 1953

DCI and DDCI: discussion of the Olsen case. It was agreed that Houston and I would make a thorough investigation and submit our recommendations to the Director.

30 November 1953

HOUSTON, EDWARDS, FIELDS and SCOTT: discussion of the Olsen case. Scott and Fields will take steps to see that the files are sent up here and the drug impounded.

1 December 1953

GIBBINS: came in to make a strong plea that no disciplinary action be taken on the Olsen case.

2 December 1953

DCI and DDCI: discussed the Olsen case with them.

2 December 1953

WISNER: discussed the Olsen case. He stated that neither he nor Helms knew anything about the intention to make this experiment. He pointed out that Helms had held a staff meeting in July at which Dunn and Gibbons were present and had indicated that the drug was dynamite and that he should be advised at all times when it was intended to use it. A memorandum on this was later sent to the Division and TSS which advised that there would be no use without Wisner's permission.

3 December 1953

DE FLOREZ: came in to say that he thought any reprimands in the Olsen case would be most unfortunate.

112

29 August 1973

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Influencing Human Behavior

Any experiment or use of drugs or other techniques for influencing human behavior will be undertaken only with the Director's specific approval and in no case on unwitting American citizens.

29 JAN 1975

(47)
SUBJECT: Frank R. Olson

Mr. Olson, who committed suicide on 28 November 1953, was a civilian employee of the U. S. Army Chemical Corps then located at Camp Dietrich. At 0500 hours on 28 November 1953, Colonel Sheffield Edwards, then the Director of Security, was called by Bernard Doran who asked for a meeting among Mr. Doran, Dr. Sidney Gottlieb, Dr. Gibbons, and Colonel Edwards. During this meeting, it was related that Mr. Olson had been in New York City during the preceding week undergoing psychiatric treatment from ~~Dr. Harold Abramson~~. Mr. Olson had been accompanied by ~~Robert Lashbrook~~, a TSS employee at that time. *ss sent by* Mr. Lashbrook and Mr. Olson had a room at the Statler Hotel in New York City. At 0230 hours, ~~Mr. Lashbrook~~ was awakened by a crash and discovered that Mr. Olson had dived through the hotel window. After this incident, Mr. Lashbrook called Dr. Gottlieb and then called the hotel desk which, in turn, called the police.

mini officers
Drs. Gibbons and Gottlieb related to the Director of Security the fact that on Wednesday and Thursday, 18 and 19 November 1953, a group of individuals from Camp Dietrich and from TSS assembled at a cabin at Deer Creek Lake. Dr. Gottlieb stated that there were seven (7) individuals (not fully identified) from Camp Dietrich and three (3) individuals from TSS. They stated that TSS liaison in connection with the "Special Operations" group at Camp Dietrich, had been kept on an EYES ONLY basis known only to a few persons in the Agency and at Camp Dietrich. It was stated that this liaison was known to ~~Generals Bullene and Creary~~ of the Army Chemical Corps. The purpose of this liaison was to discuss their work on matters of mutual interest in the sensitive and covert fields.

According to the information furnished by Dr. Gottlieb to Colonel Edwards, on the evening of 19 November, it was decided to experiment with the drug LSD and for the members present to administer the drug to themselves to ascertain the effect a clandestine application would have on a meeting or conversation. Dr. Gottlieb stated that a "very small dose"

of LSD was placed in a bottle of cointreau and that all present, except two (2) individuals, had a drink thereof. Mr. Olson was included in this group. Dr. Gottlieb reported that the drug had a definite effect on the group to the point where they were boisterous and could not continue the meeting or engage in sensible conversation. Dr. Gottlieb stated that Mr. Olson, among others, complained of wakefulness during the night.

The information contained in Colonel Edwards' memorandum for the record indicates that the LSD was administered with the knowledge of those present. However, a memorandum of conversation contained in I.G. files, dated 1 December 1953 and bearing the signature block of the then Inspector General, indicates that the LSD was given to eight (8) of the individuals present, but that they were not told what they had been given until 20 minutes afterwards. However, the use of some drug of the LSD type had been discussed with Camp Dietrich representatives by Dr. Gottlieb and they all had agreed that an unwitting experiment would be useful.

On Tuesday, 24 November 1953, the Commanding Officer of Special Operations, ~~Colonel Rautte (sic)~~ called Dr. Gottlieb and stated that Mr. Olson appeared mentally depressed. Dr. Gottlieb then suggested that Mr. Lashbrook take Mr. Olson to New York City to be treated by Dr. Abramson. From that point there were a series of psychiatric treatments in New York City until 28 November when it had been planned to place Mr. Olson in a sanitarium called Chestnut Hotel near Rockville, Maryland. Because Messrs. Lashbrook and Olson had not been able to make plane reservations, they stayed overnight at the Statler on 28 November when the suicide occurred.

Subsequent to this incident, the matter was investigated by the I.G. staff, which recommended to Mr. Allen Dulles that Drs. Gibbons, Drumm, and Gottlieb be reprimanded. I. G. investigation determined that Mr. Frank Wisner and Mr. Richard Helms were not aware that this experiment was to be conducted.

Files of this Office reflect no indication that this experiment was part of any formal project.

29 January 1975

PROJECT BLUEBIRD/ANTHROPOLOGY

48

4. A note in the record dated 23 October 1953 by Dr. E. H. Cushing (Scientific Advisor to the AD/OSI) notes that "I&SO has prepared a new set of "by laws" for the Committee, which will include approval of testing of drugs on volunteers among Agency personnel". A reference of 29 October 1953 also by Cushing refers to draft memoranda to be returned to the ARTICHOKE Committee, one of which is entitled "Experimental Project Utilizing Trainee Volunteers". No copy of this memorandum could be found. A record of a conversation between Dr. H. M. Chadwell, AD/OSI and Dr. Willis Gibbons of OTS dated 14 December 1953 refers to the Schwab activity at Detrick and contains the following cryptic notation:

"Lovell knew of Frank R. Olson. No inhibitions. Baring of inner man. Suicidal tendencies. Offensive usefulness?"

49
3 February 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Project ARTICHOKE

1. In the conduct of investigating Project ARTICHOKE, attempts were made to locate and review all available Office of Security information pertinent to Project ARTICHOKE. The information base for the memorandum "Tab A" was the materials found in old SRS files, specifically a box of materials provided out of retirement from WTC. The referenced box of materials also contained a file entitled "LSD," pertaining primarily to one Frank OLSON. Much of the information contained in the "LSD" file appeared to be I.G. file information. The Office of Security file on Frank OLSON was not reviewed as the OLSON matter was to be handled separately by a different reviewer.

2. In searching Office of Security records, an indices card for a Project BLUEBIRD was found in SRD, reflecting an OS file number 69 208. However, an exhaustive effort to locate such file met with negative results. No record was found in SRD of any file entitled Project ARTICHOKE. It was speculated that perhaps the Project BLUEBIRD file was purged or destroyed routinely, and perhaps the indices card was inadvertently left in the file. However, the fact remains that although an indices card reflecting Project BLUEBIRD was found, no file could be located.

3. In attempting to locate all available information pertinent to Project ARTICHOKE inquiry, Messrs. COLE, SOLIE, and * were contacted and their assistance was obtained.

4. As reflected in "Tab C," a memorandum was prepared utilizing information from DDS&T sources. Old OSI information was reviewed for pertinent information regarding Project BLUEBIRD and Project ARTICHOKE.

*CIA Officer

5. According to Mr. Robert GAMBINO, a review by Office of Medical Services personnel for pertinent Project ARTICHOKE materials initially failed to reflect relevant data. However, Dr. TIETJEN of Medical Services is reported to maintain certain sensitive files in his own safe, and on his return to duty, will search further for pertinent Project ARTICHOKE materials.

6. In response to direction by Mr. GAMBINO, Mr. Bill SAMPEY of DDS&T was contacted on 31 January 1975 in an attempt to review OTS records for pertinent Project ARTICHOKE materials. Mr. SAMPEY reported that a discussion with Mr. Sayre STEVENS revealed that OTS had no pertinent records available. Mr. SAMPEY reflected that the Office of the DDS&T had "gone back to OTS seven or eight times" to obtain Project ARTICHOKE information, but none apparently remained in OTS. It has been reported that Dr. Sid GOTTLIEB destroyed a number of boxes of materials prior to his termination of Agency employment.

3 February 1975

(50)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Project ARTICHOKE

7. Little information pertaining to the suicide of Frank OLSON was found in the collection of materials made available by DDS&T. However, one brief memorandum dated 14 December 1953 mentioned the OLSON incident. The memorandum stated in part "LOVELL reported that QUARLES and George MERCK were about to kill the Schwab activity at Detrick as "un-American." The memorandum later continued "LOVELL knew of Frank R. OLSON."

(5)

5 February 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : CIA R&D and Testing of Behavioral
Drugs

Donald F. Chamberlain

Donald F. Chamberlain
Inspector General

Drug-related Death of an Investigation

6. The predecessor organization of the Office of Technical Service also was interested in behavioral drugs, although none of the office's records on this activity are in existence, having been destroyed in January 1973. As noted above it participated in the meetings of the so-called ARTICHOKE Committee. That office maintained liaison with personnel at Camp Dietrick, with whom meetings were held once or twice a year to discuss questions involving behavioral drugs. At one such meeting at Deep Creek Lake in Maryland, 18-19 November 1953, with seven representatives from Camp Dietrick and three from CIA, eight of those present were administered LSD which had been introduced into a bottle of Cointreau. Although records of an inquiry by the Inspector General into the incident indicate that those present discussed testing on unwitting persons, and agreed in principle that such a program should be

explored, none of them were advised until some 20 minutes after they drank the Cointreau that it had been treated with LSD. Of the two who did not take it, one did not drink alcoholic beverages at all and the other refrained because of a heart condition. One of the members of the group, a civilian employee of the Department of Army named Frank R. Olson, had serious after-effects. He was sent at CIA expense, with an escort from CIA, to New York where he received treatment from a psychiatrist, commencing 24 November. While in New York for this treatment he threw himself through a closed window in his room on the tenth floor of the Statler Hotel, falling to his death. CIA, in a document of 9 December 1953, signed by its General Counsel, certified that Dr. Olson's death resulted from "circumstances arising out of an experiment undertaken in the course of his official duties for the United States Government." This was the official position of the Agency, established for the purpose of assuring that the survivors of Dr. Olson received compensation from the BEC. Dr. Olson had experienced some instability and delusions prior to the incident, and it was judged that the drug served to trigger the act leading to his death. Official reprimands were issued by the DCI to three CIA employees held responsible for the incident.

52

7 FEB 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Inspector General

VIA : Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT : Alleged Illegal Domestic Activities
(Project ARTICHOKE)

Charles W. Kane
Director of Security

Att

31 JAN 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Project ARTICHOKE

In the review of file information contained in SRS materials, one incident which occurred in November 1953 appears worthy of note. Although it was not clear from file information whether or not the incident occurred under the auspices of Project ARTICHOKE, the incident did involve use of LSD in an experimental exercise. One Frank OLSON, a civilian employee of the Department of the Army, committed suicide a week or so after having been administered LSD by an Agency representative. Details concerning this incident apparently will be reported in a separate memorandum, but it appears that the drug was administered to several unwitting subjects by a Dr. GOTTLIEB, at that time a branch chief in TSS (now OTS). A short time after the LSD was administered, the subjects were told that they had been given LSD. On the day following the experiment, OLSON began to behave in a peculiar and erratic manner and was later placed under the care of a psychiatrist. A few days later, OLSON crashed through a window in a New York hotel in an apparent suicide.

A memorandum dated 1 December 1953 from the IG Staff caused the impoundment of all LSD materials. Information contained in the above mentioned files reflected that the drug had been administered without the prior knowledge or approval of the Office of Security or the Office of Medical Services.

(53)

Behavioral Drugs and Testing

IDEN #

TRUE

6	Camp Dietrick
7	Deep Creek Lake
8	18-19 November
9	Dr. Frank R. Olson
10	24 November
11	Statler Hotel
12	<u>9 December 1953</u>

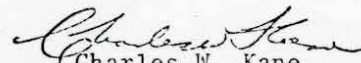
ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)					Alleged Illegal Domestic Activities (Suicide of Frank R. Olson)				
FROM: <i>Charles W. Kane</i> Director of Security				EXTENSION 6777		NO. DATE 11 JUL 1975			
TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)			DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS		COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)		
			RECEIVED	FORWARDED					
1. DDA					<i>[Signature]</i>				
2.									
3. Inspector General Att: Mr. Brody					<i>[Signature]</i>				
4. <i>98, 16</i>									
5.									
6.									
7.									
8.									
9.									
10.									
11.									
12.									
13.									
14.									
15.									

54
11 JUL 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Inspector General
ATTENTION : Mr. Allan E. Brody
VIA : Deputy Director for Administration
SUBJECT : Alleged Illegal Domestic Activities
(Suicide of Frank R. Olson)

1. Reference is made to a 10 July 1975 request from Mr. Allan Brody of your Staff concerning the location of certain documents related to the 1953 suicide of Mr. Frank R. Olson. Mr. Brody requested that the Office of Security review the pertinent files concerning the suicide in an attempt to locate certain memoranda which had been prepared by the then Inspector General (Mr. Lyman Kirkpatrick) concerning the circumstances surrounding Mr. Olson's death.
2. A review of the documents contained in an Office of Security soft file entitled "LSD Material" disclosed several memoranda related to Mr. Olson which were of interest to the Inspector General. During discussions with Mr. Brody and Mr. Scott Breckinridge on 19 July 1975, Mr. Brody requested that he be furnished with a copy of the entire "LSD Material" soft file to aid in his review of the Frank R. Olson matter.
3. Per the above discussions, copies of the entire "LSD Material" file are being forwarded herewith.
4. This memorandum will further serve to confirm that on 10 July 1975 a copy of the entire Office of Security file concerning Frank R. Olson (SF#98 450) was delivered to Mr. Allan Brody per his request upon the authorization of Deputy Director of Security (PSI).


Charles W. Kane
Director of Security

Att

31 JAN 1975

(55)

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Identity 1

12. In the review of file information contained in Identity 2 materials, one incident which occurred in November of 1953 appears worthy of note. Although it was not clear from file information whether or not the incident occurred under the auspices at Identity 1, the incident did involve use of LSD in an experimental exercise. Identity 17 committed suicide a week or so after having been administered LSD by an Agency representative. Details concerning this incident apparently will be reported in a separate memorandum, but it appears that the drug was administered to several unwitting subjects by Identity 18. A short time after the LSD was administered, the subjects were told by Identity 18 that they had been given LSD. On the day following the experiment, Identity 17 began to behave in a peculiar and erratic manner, and was later placed under the care of a psychiatrist. A few days later, Identity 17 crashed through a window in a New York hotel in an apparent suicide.

13. A memorandum dated 1 December 1953 from Identity 19 caused the impoundment of all LSD materials. Information contained in the above mentioned files reflected that the drug had been administered without the prior knowledge or approval of the Office of Security or Identity 5.

IDENTITY SHEET

Identity 1. Project ARTICHOKE

Identity 2. Security Research Staff, Office of Security

Identity 5. Office of Medical Services (OMS)

Identity 17. Frank OLSON, a Department of Army civilian

Identity 18. Dr. GOTTLIEB, OTS

Identity 19. Inspector General Staff

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Project: Behavioral Drugs & Testing

FROM:

Inspector General
Room 2E24 Hqs

EXTENSION

6565

NO.

DATE

14 Feb 1975

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

OGC

2/14/75

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

The attached sterilized summary of this project, with sterilized tabs, is submitted for review and clearance for release to authorities investigating CIA. Please return, unmarked, to the Inspector General, as soon as possible. A list of identities is also attached; this will be removed and retained in the Office of the Inspector General when the sterilized documents are released. Space for concurrence is provided below.

2.

ISW
QWC

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

OIG
Rm 2E24 Hqs

1--10

I concur in the release of the attached sanitized project summary and related documents to authorities investigating CIA.

11.

12.

13.

14.

BY HAND

Behavioral Drugs, and Testing

1155

Drug-related Death of an Investigator

8. The predecessor organization of the Office of Technical Service was the focal point for the operational investigation of behavioral drugs, although none of the office's records on this activity are in existence, having been destroyed in January 1973. As noted above it participated in the meetings of the so-called ARTICHOKE Committee. That office maintained liaison with personnel at Iden 6, with whom meetings were held once or twice a year to discuss questions involving behavioral drugs. At one such meeting at Iden 7 in Maryland,

Iden 8 1953, with seven representatives from Iden 6 and three from CIA, eight of those present were administered LSD which had been introduced into a bottle of Cointreau. Although records of an inquiry by the Inspector General into the incident indicate that those present

discussed testing on unwitting persons, and agreed in principle that such a program should be explored, none of them were advised until some 20 minutes after they drank the Cointreau that it had been treated with LSD. Of the two who did not take it, one did not drink alcoholic beverages at all and the other refrained because of a heart condition. One of the members of the group, a civilian employee of the Department of Army named Iden 9, had serious after-effects. He was sent at CIA expense, with an escort from CIA to New York where he received treatment from a psychiatrist, commencing Iden 10. While in New York for this treatment he threw himself through a closed window in his room on the tenth floor of the Iden 11, falling to his death. CIA, in a document of Iden 12, signed by its General Counsel, certified Iden 9 death resulted from "circumstances arising out of an experiment undertaken in the course of his official duties for the United States Government." (This was the official position of the Agency, established for the purpose of assuring that the survivors of Iden 9 received compensation from the BEC. Iden 9 had experienced some instability and delusions prior to the incident, and it was judged that the drug served to trigger the act leading to his death. Reprimands were issued by the DCI to two CIA employees held responsible for the incident. (See Tab A).

(57)

① get reports from [1]

② Abrahamson

③

④ Lashbrooke

⑤ Contact Col Ruelle

no compensation claim

+ message his wife

found with wife

[Gibbons]

⑥

Calwell will talk

with Bullene (for) -

⑦

Impound all

LSD in possession

+ genetic fallacy
at least one distant [2]

Strip all tests under
one direct control
(a) ascertain location

(5) Consider effect on
outside experiment
under one grant in
aid - when reports in
under (1) above.

(6) Gibbons to find out
if any correspondence
re use of LSD

(7) Keep track of all
by the unwilling
participants; there ^{Ruehl} is

⑧ Larry H. Shuff ③
talk with Gottleib
+ if ~~any~~ bring
Abraham to
Wash for after
report rec'd

⑨ Review any
statement of
Cyber policy +
decept news distribution

⑩ Look over reports
on use of LSD

RE-TYPED FOR CLARITY

(by Kainys and Rulovsky)

page 1

- (1) Get reports from
 - (a) Abrahamson
 - (b)
 - (c) Lashbrook
- (2) Contact Col. Ruette re comensation claim and through him keep in touch with wife [Gibbons]
- (3) Cabell will take with Bullene (Gen)

page 2

- (4) Impound all LSD in our possession and [unclear]
Stop all tests under our direct control
- (4a) Ascertain location
- (5) Consider effect on outside experiment under our grants in aid--when reports in under (1) above
- (6) Gibbons to find out of any correspondence re use of LSD
- (7) Keep track of all of the unwitting participants; [unclear]

page 3

- (8) [unclear] talk with Gottlieb and bring Abrahamson to Washington after report received
- (9) Review any of [unclear] of Agency [unclear] and draft new information [?]
- (10) Look over reports on use of LSD

SECRET

(58)

30 January 1954

"EYES ONLY"

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Items on Effect of LSD in Files of TSS

1. Project November 1952: Technical Progress Report No. 1, submitted

p.9. - "in six out of the seven subjects of the present experiment anxiety was an outstanding symptom".

p.1. - "44 clear incidents of distortion of others occurred in a total of 233 important relationships, hence a distortion of 19% of the relationships".

"In 19 incidents (41%) it was essentially hostile and self-oriented."

2. From November 1952: , status as of

p.10. - "Delayed Effects: The 'intoxication' of LSD generally wears off within 6-8 hours, but in practically every case a more or less unusual mental status persists for $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 day and sometimes for more than 1 week."

"Less frequently a depressive state is observed. This may last several days."

3. Project Interview of : :

p.17. - "Then at 6:00...I phoned my wife and told that she was a friend of my wife and told her that Miss X is very, very disturbed about LSD and she told me, 'My God! Why you haven't asked me? She's not the person for LSD'. That we should use LSD only as a plan in psychotherapy not only as an experiment. That's too bad, and she was so depressed for 14 days so heavy that she couldn't work for 14 days."

LBK:rm

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

Case No. 73317

3 December 1953

GENERAL:

At New York, New York

On 28 November 1953, at 7:50 a.m., ROBERT V. LASHEROCK was interviewed in Room 408, Statler Hotel, 33rd Street and Seventh Avenue.

Mr. LASHEROCK advised that the SUBJECT was a biochemist and Agency employee assigned to a project at Camp Dietrick, Frederick, Maryland. He stated that a Colonel VINCENT RUWET is Commanding Officer of the SUBJECT's group. LASHEROCK indicated that he has known the SUBJECT for about one year. He stated that the SUBJECT had been suffering from "persecution delusions and guilt feelings." He indicated that these delusions and guilt feelings were not in areas related to the SUBJECT's work. LASHEROCK stated that the SUBJECT had received a medical discharge from the military service because of ulcers and was drawing disability pay. It was the SUBJECT's feeling that he actually had no ulcers and that he therefore believed that he was cheating the government. In this connection, LASHEROCK stated that the SUBJECT would listen to no reasonable solution to his problem. He stated that Colonel RUWET had become aware of SUBJECT's condition and suggested that something be done about it. As a result, on 24 November 1953, Colonel RUWET, LASHEROCK and the SUBJECT came to New York to consult with Dr. HAROLD A. ABRAMSON who has offices at 133 East 56th Street, New York City, and who resides at 47 New Street, Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, New York. The three consulted with Dr. ABRAMSON on 24 and 25 November 1953 and on the night of 25 November all three went to the Hotel Statler with the intention of departing for Washington, D.C., at about 7:30 a.m., 26 November. At about 5:30 a.m., Colonel RUWET and LASHEROCK arose and were unable to find the SUBJECT. They proceeded to the lobby of the hotel and found SUBJECT there. The SUBJECT told them that he had been "wandering around for a while."

Note (by Kairys and Rudovsky): this is
a more complete version of document (12).

This data is property of the Security Office and should be returned when it has served its purpose. Its existence or contents must not be disclosed except to CIA and other offices concerned.

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

Case No. 73317

3 December 1953

He also told them that he had torn up what paper money he had and various papers in his wallet. He also indicated that he then threw the wallet away. He was unable to indicate where he had discarded the above articles. Colonel RUWET, Mr. LASHROCK and the SUBJECT returned to Washington, D.C., on the morning of the 26th. The SUBJECT's condition was such that it was considered advisable that they return to New York immediately for further consultation with Dr. AERAMSON. Colonel RUWET remained in Washington and LASHROCK and the SUBJECT returned to New York, arriving at La Guardia Airport at about 2:00 p.m. They proceeded by taxi to Dr. AERAMSON's residence, 117 New Street, Huntington, Long Island, arriving there at about 4:00 p.m. After about a one-hour consultation, LASHROCK and the SUBJECT went to the Anchorage Guest House at Cold Spring Harbor where they remained overnight. At about 8:15 a.m. on 27 November 1953, Dr. AERAMSON met LASHROCK and the SUBJECT at the Anchorage Guest House and drove them to Dr. AERAMSON's New York office at 133 East 58th Street. There was a further conference in which all three participated and it was Dr. AERAMSON's suggestion that the SUBJECT go to a hospital for treatment. LASHROCK stated that SUBJECT indicated that this was agreeable to him. Dr. AERAMSON then contacted the Chestnut Lodge at Rockville, Maryland, and made arrangements for the SUBJECT, accompanied by LASHROCK, to be there at noon on 28 November 1953. The Chestnut Lodge was decided upon after telephonic discussion between Dr. AERAMSON and Dr. GOTTLEB. LASHROCK identified Dr. GOTTLEB as Dr. SID GOTTLEB, his (LASHROCK's) supervisor. After the conference and on the afternoon of 27 November 1953, LASHROCK and the SUBJECT returned to the Hotel Statler and checked in. They watched television for a while and then went to the hotel cocktail lounge where each had two martinis. They later had dinner in the hotel's main dining room. LASHROCK stated that no other alcoholic beverages were consumed by either of them. LASHROCK stated that at this time, the SUBJECT appeared cheerful and in a considerably better mood. Shortly before 10:00 p.m., the SUBJECT telephoned his wife. He stated that the SUBJECT appeared reluctant to discuss his condition with his wife. LASHROCK added that the SUBJECT's wife had had psychiatric care early this year. At about 10:00 p.m., the SUBJECT and LASHROCK returned to their room. They had Room #1018 which contained twin beds. LASHROCK stated that shortly after 10:00 p.m. he called Colonel RUWET who agreed to meet them at the plane arrival at Washington at about 9:30 a.m., 28 November 1953. LASHROCK and the SUBJECT watched television in their room until about 11:00 p.m.

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION
- 2 -

~~SECRET~~
SECURITY INFORMATION

Case No. 73317

3 December 1953

LASHEROOK stated that the SUBJECT remarked that he felt more relaxed than he had for a long time. Both then went to bed and LASHEROOK fell asleep. LASHEROOK stated that recalling that the SUBJECT had "disappeared" the day before, he, LASHEROOK, took the bed nearest the door. LASHEROOK stated that he was unable to fix the time definitely but that about 2:30 a.m. he heard a loud crash of glass. He said that the SUBJECT had jumped through the window shade and the glass and landed on the sidewalk of Seventh Avenue, across the street from Pennsylvania Station. He repeated that his estimate of the time was not accurate and that "that time may be way off." He stated that he immediately, and before reporting to anyone else, telephonically contacted his superior, Dr. GOTTLEB, at his home, telephone VIDA 114 (Virginia) 1534, and told him what had happened. He then reported the incident to the hotel telephone operator. LASHEROOK said that immediately afterward he called Dr. ABRAMSON who "wanted to be kept out of the thing completely." Shortly afterward, some uniformed police officers and hotel employees came to his room. LASHEROOK stated that he did not obtain their names. He told the police at that time that he did not know why the SUBJECT had jumped and indicated to them that he knew the SUBJECT suffered from ulcers. The uniformed police made a search of the room and found no papers belonging to the SUBJECT, with one exception. LASHEROOK said that this was a letter to the SUBJECT from the Veterans Administration concerning a lapsed insurance policy. This was in LASHEROOK's suitcase. He explained that on Thursday night, the 26th, the SUBJECT had thrown the letter into a waste paper basket and LASHEROOK had retrieved it. While the police were in the room, Dr. ABRAMSON called back and indicated that he had changed his mind about wanting to be "left out completely," and would assist. LASHEROOK stated that no one exhibited any curiosity about this call. He stated that he observed that during the first call to Dr. ABRAMSON the doctor's voice was loud and clear. During the second call, he could not hear the doctor very well and speculated on the possibility of a tapped wire. Following a search of the room by the police, LASHEROOK was requested to go to the police station house at 138 West 30th Street to identify the body. At the station house, he was interviewed by Detectives WARD and MULLEE of the 11th Detective Squad. The detective asked him to turn out his pockets. LASHEROOK stated that among his papers there were airline tickets for the trips that he and the SUBJECT had taken within the past few days and a receipt on plain white paper for \$115.00 dated 25 November 1953 and signed by JOHN MULHOLLAND. The receipt indicated "Advance for Travel to Chicago." There was also a post card with Colonel RUWET's address appearing as follows: "Vince Ruwet, 1004 Rosemont Avenue, phone Monument 3-3469." LASHEROOK said that his papers included some hotel bills and also a paper with the

~~SECRET~~
SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION

Case No. 73317

3 December 1953

address of the Chestnut Lodge in Rockville, Maryland. This latter paper was retained by Detectives WARD and MULLEE. Among LASHBROOK's papers examined by the detectives, there was one which contained Dr. ABRAMSON's office and home addresses and telephone numbers. This paper also contained the following:

G.W.
59 West 12th St.
Apt. 6E
Chelsea 3-7176

M.H.
81 Bedford St.
Oregon 5-0257

J.M.
600 West 115th St.
Mo2-8763

LASHBROOK stated that this information was copied by Detectives WARD and MULLEE and they asked him who G.W., M.H. and J.M. were. He indicated that he preferred not to identify them because of security reasons and the matter was pressed no further by the detectives. LASHBROOK identified G.W. to the reporting agent as GEORGE WHITE, Chief of the Boston Office of the U. S. Bureau of Narcotics. He said that M.H. stood for MORGAN HALL, an undercover name for GEORGE WHITE. LASHBROOK identified J.M. as JOHN MULHOLLAND, an Agency employee. During the interview by the detectives, LASHBROOK stated that he told them he was employed by the Department of Defense and exhibited his AGO card for identification. He said that the police requested no details concerning his superior or office location and that he volunteered none. He gave the detectives his California home address, 1115 Montrose, South Pasadena, which is where his parents reside, and his Washington, D.C., address, Apt. 109, 1833 New Hampshire N.W. LASHBROOK stated that he told the detectives that the SUBJECT was employed at Camp Dietrick, Frederick, Maryland, that Colonel VINCENT RUWET was the person there to be notified and that the SUBJECT came to New York with the knowledge of Colonel RUWET and SUBJECT's wife. LASHBROOK stated that he gave no details of SUBJECT's employment at Camp Dietrick. He indicated to the police that he, LASHBROOK, was stationed in Washington, D.C. LASHBROOK stated that the detectives indicated that he had been somewhat uncooperative when questioned by the police in his room at the hotel. LASHBROOK said that he explained to the detectives that because of the nature of SUBJECT's illness he

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was reluctant to discuss it before so many people. He indicated to the detectives that he came to New York with the SUBJECT to see Dr. ABRAMSON and that the SUBJECT was seeing Dr. ABRAMSON because of mental illness. LASHEROCK told the detectives that he was to accompany the SUBJECT to Chestnut Lodge at Rockville, Maryland. LASHEROCK stated that the detectives then examined his wallet. The wallet contained his AGO pass, #495652, and an Army Chemical Center pass, #C750. The wallet also contained a small slip of paper with about thirty unrelated letters of the alphabet. LASHEROCK explained to the reporting agent that this was a coded safe combination. He stated that the police passed right over these papers and did not copy them. The wallet also contained Agency pass #E-244 with Serial #C1168321629. This pass indicated "If found return to Box 1925, Washington, D.C." This pass was not questioned by the detectives and not identified or explained by LASHEROCK. He indicated also that he advised the Police Department that he, LASHEROCK, shared his apartment in Washington, D.C., with EDWIN SPOCHER. At the conclusion of the interview by the detectives, all papers were returned to LASHEROCK and they assured him that there would be no publicity emanating from the Police Department regarding the incident. They requested that between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 noon on 28 November 1953, LASHEROCK identify SUBJECT's body at the Morgue, Bellevue Hospital, 25th Street and First Avenue, New York City. They further indicated that there would not be any further need to question him.

The interview was concluded at about 9:30 a.m. and reporting agent advised LASHEROCK that he would contact him at the Statler Hotel when LASHEROCK returned from the Bellevue Morgue.

At about 12:30 p.m., reporting agent and LASHEROCK met at the Hotel Statler. LASHEROCK advised that he had made the official identification of SUBJECT's body and that funeral arrangements would be made by Colonel RUMET or the SUBJECT's wife. Reporting agent remained with LASHEROCK until 5:00 p.m. LASHEROCK made a number of phone calls during the afternoon and other than exhibiting fatigue, appeared completely composed. He advised that pursuant to instructions received from Dr. GOTTLIEB he was to meet with Dr. ABRAMSON at 9:15 p.m. on the 28th to obtain a report from Dr. ABRAMSON which he was to take to Washington.

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At 5:00 p.m., Agent WALTER P.T., Jr., met reporting agent and ROBERT LASHEROCK at Pennsylvania Station at New York City. Pursuant to instructions, Agent WALTER P.T. accompanied LASHEROCK throughout the evening and reporting agent departed. LASHEROCK indicated that he would like to take a walk and go to a movie until his 9:15 p.m. appointment. After seeing "Cease Fire" at the Criterion (44th Street and Broadway) and dinner at Mc Ginnis's Restaurant (48th Street and Broadway), LASHEROCK and Agent WALTER P.T. walked to 133 East 158th Street, New York, N. Y., arriving there at about 9:15 p.m. Upon arriving there, they proceeded to Room 310. LASHEROCK indicated that he preferred to have the agent wait in the reception room while he spoke to Dr. ABRAMSON. LASHEROCK introduced the agent to Dr. ABRAMSON without the use of the agent's name and indicated that he was a friend accompanying him in an advisory capacity. While remaining in the outer office, Agent WALTER P.T. overheard a portion of the conversation between LASHEROCK and Dr. ABRAMSON. This conversation is summarized as follows:

Upon closing the door, Dr. ABRAMSON and LASHEROCK started a discussion relating to security. Dr. ABRAMSON was heard to comment to LASHEROCK that he was worried about him. LASHEROCK then stated that he thought it would be best if he dictated to Dr. ABRAMSON. Prior to his dictation, they listened to portions of a conversation which had been recorded. Although names were not mentioned, it is believed that the recording represented an interview between a physician or psychiatrist and the SUBJECT. Following this, LASHEROCK started to dictate to Dr. ABRAMSON concerning the SUBJECT. This related to LASHEROCK's observations of SUBJECT's behaviour prior to SUBJECT's demise. LASHEROCK told Dr. ABRAMSON that SUBJECT had told him that as far back as March 1953 SUBJECT's wife had suggested that SUBJECT see a doctor because of his depressed condition. LASHEROCK further stated that it was his impression that SUBJECT had delusions and was suffering from guilt and persecution complexes. LASHEROCK mentioned that SUBJECT thought he was stealing money from the government. LASHEROCK also indicated to Dr. ABRAMSON that SUBJECT had told him that he thought the agency group was putting benzedrine in his coffee to keep him awake. Toward the close of his dictation, LASHEROCK indicated that he had had dinner at the hotel with the SUBJECT at which time the SUBJECT had said to him, "I haven't felt better for a long time." Several times during LASHEROCK's dictation, the dictation was interrupted and he and Dr. ABRAMSON listened to portions of the tape recording.

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Agent WALTER P.T. heard LASHROCK and Dr. ABRAMSON leave the room closest to the outside office and enter another room. At this point, LASHROCK and Dr. ABRAMSON were apparently having a drink. Dr. ABRAMSON was heard to remark to LASHROCK that he was "worried as to whether or not the deal was in jeopardy" and that he thought "that the operation was dangerous and that the whole deal should be re-analyzed." LASHROCK and Dr. ABRAMSON rejoined Agent WALTER P.T. in the outer office at about 10:30 p.m. Dr. ABRAMSON accompanied LASHROCK and the agent to the street. On the way down, Dr. ABRAMSON spoke to LASHROCK using medical terms which LASHROCK apparently understood quite well. Agent WALTER P.T. got the impression that LASHROCK is a doctor or scientist.

Agent WALTER P.T. and LASHROCK took a taxi from 58th Street and Park Avenue to Pennsylvania Station where LASHROCK boarded the 12:10 a.m. train for Washington, D.C., at 11:00 p.m.

On 2 December 1953, Agent JOHN D.P. obtained Certificate of Death relating to the SUBJECT from the New York City Department of Health, Bureau of Records and Statistics. This certificate is attached and marked Exhibit A.

On 2 December 1953, Agent JEREMIAH J.M. examined "WHO'S IMPORTANT IN MEDICINE," Second Edition, 1952, at the New York Public Library, 42nd Street and Fifth Avenue. This book contained the following information about Dr. HAROLD ABRAMSON:

"ABRAMSON, Harold Alexander, Physician; born November 27, 1899, New York, N.Y.; son of F. Samuel and M. Rose (Richard) Abramson; educated at Columbia Univ., AB 1920, MD 1923; married Barbara Howland Smith, June 26, 1933; Children - Alexandra Howland, Harold Alexander, Barbara Howland, Howland Wilson. Engaged in the practice of Medicine since 1925. National Research Council Fellow, Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Phys. Chemistry and Electrochemistry, Berlin, 1926-27. Instructor in Medicine, John Hopkins University, 1929-31. Associate in Bacteriology and Immunology, Cornell University, 1931-35. Assistant Professor of Physiology, Columbia University, since 1935. Associate Physician and Chief of Allergy Clinic, Mt. Sinai Hospital. Discovered and developed electrophoretic and ultracentrifugal isolation of molecules causing hay fever; elec. charge of blood cells; electrophoretic (sic) skin tests and therapy with pollen extracts; mechanism of allergic skin reactions, nature of ionizing groups of protein surfaces. Initiated (1942) and

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directed penicillin aerosol therapy for lungs for Tech. Div., Chem. War Service, World War II. Assistant Chief and Chief, Defense Materiel. Fellow: N.Y. Academy of Medicine; American College of Allergists (Pres. 1951-52). Member: American Assn. for Advancement of Science; American Academy of Allergy; American Psychosomatic Society; N.Y. Academy of Science; N.Y. Allergy Society (Pres. 1951-52); American Society of Certified Allergists; American Society of Biological Chemists; N.Y. County Medical Society; Society for Experimental Biol. and Med.; Society for Investigative Dermatology; Alpha Omega Alpha; Epsilon Chi; Member, Board of Trustees, Biology Lab., Cold Spring Harbor, L.I. Awarded Meyerhof Prize, Columbia Medical College, 1921; Stevens Triennial Prize, Col. Univ., 1935; Legion of Merit, World War II. Member of Editorial Board: Annals of Allergy; Psychosomatic Medicine; Archives of Allergy and Immunology. Lt.-Col., Med. Corps Res. (inactive). Res: Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. Off: 133 East 58 St., N.Y. 22, N.Y."

The MEDICAL DIRECTORY OF NEW YORK STATE, Volume XLIV, 1951, published by the Medical Society of the State of New York, 292 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y., indicates that Dr. AERAMSON's practice is limited to Immunology and Allergy.

On 2 December 1953, Agent JAMES J. McC. contacted Detectives JAMES WARD and DAVID MULLEN at the 11th Police Precinct, 138 West 30th Street, New York City. Detective WARD made available the complaint report in SUBJECT's case which indicated the date and time as 26 November 1953 at 3:50 a.m. The case number was 125124 and the crime DOA (Death on Arrival). The place of occurrence was noted to be the Hotel Statler, Room 1018A, 33rd Street and Seventh Avenue, and the case was handled by Detective JAMES WARD, 11th Squad.

The details as reported by complainant Patrolman GUASTEFESTE, Shield #11626, described the SUBJECT as "unknown, M-W-42-5'10"-170 lbs.-blue eyes-blond hair-partly bald-wearing white underwear. Registered in hotel under name of FRANK _____ of Route #5, Frederick, Md. Jumped or fell through window in room at place of occurrence and pronounced DOA by Dr. DEMOSENO of St. Vincent's Hospital. Deceased found by Assistant Manager FITZGERALD of Statler Hotel. Body to station house.

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Report of Investigating Officer dated 11/28/53 stated that the investigation was being conducted and that in view of the facts set forth it was requested that the case remain active.

A supplementary complaint report concerning the case indicated that the crime or offense reported was now listed as DCA (Suicide). The status of the case was indicated as Closed WR (with written report).

The report of the investigation dated 30 November 1953 reflected the following:

"SUBJECT-RE: INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED, IDENTITY OF DECEASED, CAUSE OF DEATH AND DISPOSITION OF BODY.

1. Upon being notified of this occurrence, immediately visited place of occurrence, Statler Hotel, where a thorough investigation was conducted. At this time, it was disclosed that the deceased had registered in Rm. #1018A on November 26, 1953, under the name of FRANK R. _____, Frederick, Md., with another person named ROBERT LASHEROCK, Washington, D.C., Apt. 102, who identified himself as a consultant chemist employed by the War Department, Defense Bureau, Adjutant's General's Office, Washington, D.C., under Serial #C1168321829 also had picture on card with number 3244. LASHEROCK at this time disclosed that the deceased was one FRANK R. _____, Camp Detrick, Frederick, Maryland, a Bacteriologist, employed by the same branch of the government as he (LASHEROCK). He further stated that the deceased with himself and a Colonel VINCENT RUMET, attached to Camp Detrick, Frederick, Md., came to New York City on November 24, 1953, for the purpose of having the deceased examined by a Dr. HAROLD ABERNETHY, 133 E. 50th St., N.Y.C. (PL 3-8338), as he was suffering from a mental ailment. They remained in N.Y.C. until the morning of November 26, 1953, registered at the Statler Hotel, during which time the deceased was examined by the doctor on two occasions and on the morning of November 26, 1953, LASHEROCK, with the deceased, returned to New York City and registered in the Statler Hotel. They again visited the aforementioned doctor and as a result of this visit the deceased was advised to enter a sanitarium as he was suffering from severe psychosis and illusions. At this time, arrangements were made for the deceased to enter the Chestnut Lodge, Rockville, Md., under the supervision of a Dr. FORT. On the evening of November 27, 1953, the deceased in the company of LASHEROCK had dinner in the Cafe Rouge of the Statler Hotel and returned to their room at approximately 9:30 p.m.

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looked at television for approximately 1 hour and then proceeded to go to sleep. At approximately 3:20 a.m. on November 28, 1953, LASHBROOK stated that he heard a crash of glass which awakened him and upon turning on the light he observed that the deceased was not in his bed and that the window of the room leading out to 7th Avenue was broken. He then called the operator of the hotel and at this time he learned that _____ had jumped out of the window.

"2. The assigned immediately checked on the above facts related by LASHBROOK and they were verified by Dr. HAROLD ABRAMSON and Colonel VINCENT RUSET.

"3. Due to the importance of the positions held by the deceased and LASHBROOK with the U.S. Government, the facts in this case were related to F.B.I. Agent GEORGE DALEN (by telephone).

"4. On November 28, 1953, autopsy performed on body of deceased by Assistant Medical Examiner DE MAIO and as a result of same it was disclosed that death resulted from multiple fractures.

"5. On November 28, 1953, body of the deceased claimed by his wife ALICE and delivered by Frank E. Campbell, undertakers, 1076 Madison Ave., under removal #87, for burial. CASE CLOSED."

This report was submitted and signed by Detective JAMES W. WARD, Shield #338, 14th Squad.

Before reviewing the report, Detective DAVID MULLEE, who had reported to duty on the evening shift a little earlier than Detective WARD, engaged in conversation with Agent JAMES J. McC. When MULLEE was contacted and advised that the agent was interested in obtaining the report concerning SUBJECT's case, MULLEE advised that he was Detective WARD's partner on the case. He stated that WARD was responsible for the report and he personally discussed the case and said that ROBERT LASHBROOK, who was with the SUBJECT, had been quite uncooperative and he and Detective WARD had to bring LASHBROOK to the station house before he would answer other questions. Detective MULLEE said that they were first very suspicious that LASHBROOK and the SUBJECT might have been engaged in some homosexual affair and also were mulling over in their minds the possibility that the case was actually a homicide. He further stated that they were considering

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the possibility that SUBJECT and LASHEROCK were involved in some committee hearing for they were aware that Sen. Mc Carthy's Committee was in town around this time. He stated that the case of DUGGAN of the State Department came to mind and as a result they called the FBI to see whether or not they knew anything about either LASHEROCK or the SUBJECT. About this time, Detective JAMES WARD appeared and he more or less confirmed what Detective MULLEE had said. He advised that LASHEROCK was uncooperative and it was "like pulling teeth to get anything out of him." He said that they secured Dr. AERASCH's name from the hotel operator who apparently had intercepted LASHEROCK's call to Dr. AERASCH and he continued by stating that he could not believe anything could be so secretive that LASHEROCK would have been justified in being so uncooperative. He advised that he had been in touch with an F.B.I. agent (whom Detective MULLEE thought was named Mc SHANE) whom he, Detective WARD, did not identify, and who was equally unbelieving and had expressed the opinion that he did not know of any government work so confidential as to justify a lack of cooperation with police officials.

After this discussion, Detective WARD made available report set forth above and when the report was returned to him, in answer to a query as to whether the FBI was still interested in the case he stated that he believed they were doing further checking into the background of LASHEROCK.

Detectives WARD and MULLEE advised that the SUBJECT's case had been given little publicity but this was not because the reporters were not interested in the case at the time that it happened, but rather that none of the more important New York newspapers have been published since the incident occurred. They said that reporters had been around the station house trying to get details on the story on the day it happened but advised that after twenty-four hours news stories lose their value.

Detectives WARD and MULLEE were fully cooperative and advised that they would be willing to give further help if it were desired.

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(To be submitted to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, Bureau of Employees' Compensation, Washington 25, D. C., as soon as practical after any injury to a civilian employee of the United States Government while in the performance of duty which requires absence from work beyond the duty or shift on which the injury occurred or results in any change against the status of the employee. This form should be accompanied by C. A. 1.)

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1. Department Army 2. Bureau or office Chemical Corps
3. Place of employment Camp Detrick Frederick (City or town) Md. (State)
4. Reporting office SO Division Camp Detrick Frederick (City or town) Md. (State)
5. Name of superintendent or foreman in charge when injury occurred Lt. Col. V. L. Rowet

6. Name of injured employee Frank R. Olson 7. Age 43 8. Sex M 9. Race W
10. Home address R. F. D. 75 Frederick Md. (City or town) (State)
11. Occupation and division Supervisory Biochemist SO Division Was employee doing his regular work? Yes If not, what work?
13. Total length of service with the Government as a civilian? 22 years
14. How long at present work in this establishment? 2 1/2 years
15. Dates of other injuries none

The injured employee

16. Rate of pay on date of injury, \$ 9800.00 per annum { and subsistence valued at \$..... per
17. Employee begins work at 7:45 a.m. m. 18. Regular day's work ends 4:30 p.m. m.
19. Hours worked per day 8 20. Days paid per week 5

21. Place where injury occurred Oakland, Md. on private property
22. Date of injury 19 November 1953; day of week Friday; hour of day evening
23. Date employee stopped work 27 November 1953; day of week Friday; hour of day 5:30 p.m.
24. Date employee's pay stopped 27 Nov 1953; day of week Friday; hour of day 5:30 p.m.
25. Has employee returned to work? No

26. Will employee receive pay for any portion of above absence on account of:
(a) Annual leave No
(b) Sick leave No
(c) Any other reason No

27. Describe in full how injury occurred Classified Illness
See statement in enclosure of this report

28. State part of body injured and nature and extent of injury See statement in enclosure of this report

29. Did injury cause loss of any member or part of member? No If so, describe exactly See statement in enclosure of this report

30. Was employee injured while in performance of duty? Yes If not, or in doubt, give detailed statement

31. Was injury caused by:
(a) Willful misconduct of the employee? No (b) Intention of employee to bring about injury or death of himself or another? No (c) Employee's intoxication? No
(If any answers to these questions are made in the affirmative, the reporting officer should attach an additional statement giving the reason for the conclusion.)

32. Was written notice of injury given within 48 hours? Yes If not, did immediate superior have actual knowledge of injury? Yes
(Answer to question 3, Form C-4, must be complete if either was not given within 48 hours.)

33. Names and addresses of witnesses to injury Lt. Col. V. L. Rowet

34. Was injury caused by a third party other than a Government employee or agency? No If so, has employee been instructed in procedure under the Bureau's regulations?
(A detailed statement should be forwarded with this report.)

35. Name and address of physician who first attended case

36. How soon after injury? 1 day
37. To what hospital sent? Frederick Location Md.

38. Name and address of physician now attending case

Signed this 27 day of November 1953
Frank R. Olson

STATEMENT OF WITNESSES

[The statement of witness should tell just what the witness saw personally, or, if he did not see the injury occur, just what he knows about it and when and by whom the information was given him.]

The employee received a blow on the head while duty which was a result of a security for his further examination.

received

(not witness)

after review of the facts
Hacker

(not witness)

after review of the facts
Hacker

(not witness)

Signed this _____ day of _____, 19____

(Signature of witness)

Signed this _____ day of _____, 19____

(Signature of witness)

STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT MEDICAL OFFICER OR PHYSICIAN WHO FIRST EXAMINED CASE

I CERTIFY that Dr. Francis R. Parker was given first-aid treatment, or examined, on _____, 19____, at _____, and _____ disabled for work. Probable length of disability will be _____ (Was or was not) In my opinion disability _____ due to injury on _____, 19____ (Was or was not)

Nature of injury as found on examination _____

Hospitalized _____ Will return for further treatment _____

Discharged _____ Other disposition _____

Remarks _____

Signed this _____ day of _____, 19____

at _____

(Signature of medical officer)

(Title)

(To be submitted to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, Bureau of Employment Statistics, Washington 25, D. C., as soon as practicable after any injury to a civil employee of the United States, regardless of whether the person sustaining the injury was on duty or on leave, and regardless of whether the work beyond the day or shift on which the injury occurred or results in any change against the Bureau for the next day. This form should be accompanied by C-14.)

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Place of employment

1. Department Army 2. Bureau or office Chemical Corps

3. Place of employment Camp Patrick Frederick (Engineer, Navigator, etc.) (State)

4. Reporting office SO Division Camp Patrick (Location of reporting office or division headquarters) (State)

5. Name of superintendent or foreman in charge when injury occurred A. C. R. R. R.

6. Name of injured employee Frank R. Olson 7. Age 43 8. Sex M 9. Race W

10. Home address P. O. Box 175 Frederick Maryland (Give first name in full) (Street and number) (City or town) (State)

11. Occupation and division Supervisory Biochemist, SO Division Was employee doing his regular work? Yes If not, what work?

13. Total length of service with the Government as a civilian? 8 1/2 years

14. How long at present work in this establishment? 8 1/2 years

15. Dates of other injuries. 19 Nov 1953 died of injuries sustained on 28 Nov 1953

16. Rate of pay on date of injury, \$ 9300.00 per annum { and subsistence valued at \$ _____ per _____ and quarters valued at \$ _____ per _____

17. Employee begins work at 7:45 a.m. m. 18. Regular day's work ends 4:50 p.m. m. (Hour, a. m. or p. m.) (Hour, a. m. or p. m.)

19. Hours worked per day 0 20. Days paid per week 5

21. Place where injury occurred (death) Stillman Hotel, New York City

22. Date of injury (death) 28 Nov 1953; day of week Monday; hour of day 2:30 A.M.

23. Date employee stopped work 27 November 1953; day of week Friday; hour of day 4:50 p.m.

24. Date employee's pay stopped 27 Nov 1953; day of week Friday; hour of day 7:15 p.m.

25. Has employee returned to work? NO (Give date and hour)

26. Will employee receive pay for any portion of above absence on account of: (a) Annual leave NO (Give exact dates) (b) Sick leave NO (Give exact dates) (c) Any other reason NO (Give exact dates)

27. Describe in full how injury occurred (death) Classified illness (cardiac disease) death

28. State part of body injured and nature and extent of injury death

29. Did injury cause loss of any member or part of member? death If so, describe exactly

30. Was employee injured while in performance of duty? XX If no, or in doubt, give detailed statement XX death resulted from previous heart condition

31. Was injury caused by: (a) Willful misconduct of the employee? NO (b) Intention of employee to bring about injury or death of himself or another? XX (c) Employee's intoxication? NO (If any answers to these questions are made in the affirmative, the reporting office should attach an additional statement giving the reason for its conclusion)

32. Was written notice of injury given within 48 hours? YES If not, did immediate superior have actual knowledge of injury? (Answer to question 4, Form C, 1-54, must be complete if notice was not given within 48 hours)

33. Names and addresses of witnesses to injury (death) Dr. Vernon R. Kaufman, Jr.

(If disability will continue for more than one day, have statements of witnesses made on reverse side of this form)

34. Was injury caused by a third party other than a Government employee or agency? NO If so, has employee been instructed in procedure under the Bureau's regulation? (A detailed statement should be forwarded with this report)

35. Name and address of physician who first attended case after death

36. How soon after injury?

37. To what hospital sent? Location

38. Name and address of physician now attending case

Signed this 62 day of November, 1953 Frank R. Olson Camp Patrick, Frederick, Maryland

Medical attendance

Whether he was responsible for his acts

[The statement of witness should tell just what the witness saw personally, or, if he did not see the injury occur, just what he knows about it and when and by whom the information was given him.]

(death) 7501
Superior electric, mechanical disturbance which
was a result of a defective component of power
supply system of - pump -

Signed this _____ day of _____, 19____
(Sp.) Vernon R. Lathrop, Jr.
 (Signature of witness)

Signed this _____ day of _____, 19____
 (Signature of witness)

copy
 STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT MEDICAL OFFICER OR PHYSICIAN WHO FIRST
 EXAMINED CASE *(death)*

I CERTIFY that _____ was given first-aid treatment, or examined,
 on _____, 19____, at _____ m., and _____ disabled for work. Probable length of
 disability will be _____ In my opinion disability _____ due to injury
 on _____, 19____
 Nature of injury as found on examination *(See death certificate attached.)*

Hospitalized _____ Will return for further treatment _____
 Discharged _____ Other disposition _____
 Remarks _____

Signed this _____ day of _____, 19____
 at _____
 (Signature of medical officer)

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KIRKPATRICK DIARY

30 November 1953

DCI and DDCI: discussion of the Olsen case. It was agreed that Houston and I would make a thorough investigation and submit our recommendations to the Director.

30 November 1953

HOUSTON, EDWARDS, FIELDS AND SCOTT: discussion of the Olsen case. Scott and Fields will take steps to see that the files are sent up here and the drug impounded.

1 December 1953

GIBBONS: came in to make a strong plea that no disciplinary action be taken on the Olsen case.

2 December 1953

DCI and DDCI: discussed the Olsen case with them.

2 December 1953

WISNER: discussed the Olsen case. He stated that neither he nor Helms knew anything about the intention to make this experiment. He pointed out that Helms had held a staff meeting in May at which Drum and Gibbons were present and had indicated that the drug was dynamite and that he should be advised at all times when it was intended to use it. A memorandum on this was later sent to the Division and TSS which advised that there would be no use without Wisner's permission.

3 December 1953

HAROLD COOPER: talked to him about his reaction to LSD. He stated that he thought application on an unwitting basis was very bad.

3 December 1953

GOTTLEIB: advised that Dr. Abramson would be here tomorrow and would I want to see him. Told him that I would arrange it through Houston.

3 December 1953

DE FLOREZ: came in to say that he thought any reprimands in the Olsen case would be most unfortunate.

8 December 1953

HOUSTON: reported that he had obtained a favorable ruling on the Olsen case from BEC.

10 & 11 December 1953

HOUSTON: discussed the Olsen case, (matters not concerned with Olsen case have been deleted)

17 December 1953

DDCI: reviewed the Olsen case and advised I would submit it to him for disciplinary action

17 December 1953

GIBBONS: came with Drum to advise that Gottlieb had cleared with Drum, who was acting Chief TSS.

18 December 1953

EDWARDS and CHADWELL: advised me that Stanley Lovell had considerable information about the Olsen case.

22 December 1953

HOUSTON: asked him for papers on Olsen case.

12 January 1954

Advised HOUSTON of comments in GOTTLIEB's files on LSD.

25 January 1954

Meeting with CABELL, WISNER, and HELMS on OLSEN case.

1 February 1954

Discussion with DCI and DDCI on TSS reprimands and TSS meeting (deFlores, Drum, Gibbons, Gottlieb, Helms, Houston, Edwards, Cabell and Dulles).

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

*Pres. James N. Drummond
and Dr. Sidney Hottel*

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"EYES ONLY"

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Technical Services Staff

SUBJECT : Unwitting Application of LSD

two members of

1. This is to advise you that I consider the unwitting application of LSD in an experiment with which you are familiar to be an indication of exceedingly bad judgment on the part of your staff. ~~Such action cannot and will not be condoned in this Agency.~~

officials to whom you of this conclusion and
2. The purpose of this memorandum is to advise you *to take all* that all necessary steps should be taken to insure a thorough and careful review within TSS of all experiments. The Deputy Director (Plans) has been instructed to constitute a review board composed of the appropriate officials from within the Agency to periodically review TSS research and experiments.

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

by LOK:wm 29 Jan 54
LBK:wm 2 Feb 54

SECRET

SECRET

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Colonel James H. Drum
Chief, Technical Operations
Technical Services Staff

Dear Colonel Drum:

I have personally reviewed the case in which your staff employed the use of a drug on an unwitting group of subjects. While there may be some question concerning this experiment with the later unfortunate results, there is no question in my mind about poor judgment demonstrated by you in authorizing the use of this drug on an unwitting basis.

This is to advise you that in the position of responsibility which you hold, you are held liable for the exercise of greater judgment than was indicated in this case. Your failure in this connection might well have resulted in even more serious consequences, if that is possible, than was the case.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

cc: Security Office (to Col. Edwards for "Special Handling")

SECRET

SECRET

"EYES ONLY"

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Technical Services Staff

SUBJECT : Experiment

1. This is to advise you that I consider the handling of an experiment with which you are familiar to be an indication of exceedingly bad judgment on the part of your staff. Such action cannot and will not be condoned in this Agency.

2. The purpose of this memorandum is to advise you that all necessary steps should be taken to insure a thorough and careful review within TSS of all experiments. The Deputy Director (Plans) has been instructed to constitute a review board composed of the appropriate officials from within the Agency to periodically review TSS research and experiments.

ALLEN W DULLES
Director

cc: Security Office ✓
Personnel Office

LBK:nm 29 Jan 54

LBK:nm 1 Feb 54

SECRET

"EYES ONLY"

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Technical Services Staff

SUBJECT : ^{Experiment} ~~Waiving~~ Application of TSD

1. This is to advise you that I consider the submitting application of TSD in an experiment with which you are familiar to be an indication of exceedingly bad judgment on the part of your staff. Such action cannot and will not be condoned in this Agency.

2. The purpose of this memorandum is to advise you that all necessary steps should be taken to insure a thorough and careful review within TSS of all experiments. The Deputy Director (Plans) has been instructed to constitute a review board composed of the appropriate officials from within the Agency to periodically review TSS research and experiments.

ALLEN W. DULLES
Director

cc: Security Office (to Col. Edwards for "Special Handling")

SECRET



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Colonel James H. Drum
Chief, Technical Operations
Technical Services Staff

Dear Colonel Drum:

not entirely willing that such an experiment was to be made on themselves
This refers to the unclassified letter to you of this date referring to a "classified action" and signed by me. I have personally reviewed the case in which your staff employed the use of a drug on an unwitting group of subjects. It is my view that poor judgment was demonstrated by you in authorizing the use of this drug on such a completely unwitting basis and without proximate medical safeguards.

This is to advise you that in the position of responsibility which you hold, you are expected to exercise greater judgment than was indicated in this case.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

LBK:nm 29 JAN 54

REWRITTEN/DCLI/CPCTBC/4:nm 1 Feb 54



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Colonel James H. Drum
Chief, Technical Operations
Technical Services Staff

Dear Colonel Drum:

I have personally reviewed the case of a classified action which is fully identified in your office files. In my judgment, poor judgment was demonstrated by you in authorizing this action under the actual conditions.

This is to advise you that in the position of responsibility which you hold, you are expected to exercise greater judgment than was indicated in this case.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

cc: Security Office
Personnel Office

LB:mm 29 JAN 54

Rewritten 10021 / CP Cabell: mm 1 Feb 54

SECRET



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Colonel James H. Drum
Chief, Technical Operations
Technical Services Staff

Dear Colonel Drum:

It is my view that

such a complete
I have personally reviewed the case in which your staff employed the use of a drug on an unwitting group of subjects. ~~While there may be some question concerning this experiment with the later unfortunate results, there is no question in my mind about poor judgment demonstrated by you in authorizing the use of this drug on an unwitting basis and without proximate medical safeguards.~~

This is to advise you that in the position of responsibility which you hold, you are ~~held liable for the exercise of greater judgment than was indicated in this case. Your failure in this connection might well have resulted in even more serious consequences, if that is possible, than was the case.~~

Sincerely,

Expected to

This refers to the unclassified letter to you of this date referring to a "classified action", and signed by me.

Allen W. Dulles
Director

LB K:vm 29 Jan 54

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PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Colonel James H. Drum
Chief, Technical Operations
Technical Services Staff

Dear Colonel Drum:

a classified action
I have personally reviewed the case of an experiment which is fully identified in your office files. While there may be some question concerning this experiment with the later unfortunate results, there is no question in my *in my judgment* mind about poor judgment demonstrated by you in authorizing this experiment.

action under the actual conditions.

This is to advise you that in the position of responsibility which you hold, you are held liable for the exercise of greater judgment than was indicated in this case. *Your responsibility to* failure in this connection might well have resulted in even more serious consequences, if that is possible, than was the case.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

cc: Security Office
Personnel Office

*{ sent to
for*

SECRET

FEB 10 1954

PERSONAL

Dr. Sidney Gottlieb
Chief, Chemical Division
Technical Services Staff

Dear Dr. Gottlieb:

I have personally reviewed the files from your office concerning the use of a drug on an unwitting group of individuals. In recommending the unwitting application of the drug to your superior, you apparently did not give sufficient emphasis to the necessity for medical collaboration and for proper consideration of the rights of the individual to whom it was being administered. This is to inform you that it is my opinion that you exercised poor judgment in this case.

Sincerely,

S/
Allen W. Dulles
Director

O/IG/LBKirkpatrick:rm 29 Jan 54
Rewritten by DDCI/CPCabell:rm 1 Feb 54
Rewritten by DDCI/CPCabell:rm 6 Feb 54

SECRET

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Sidney Gottlieb
Chief, Chemical Division
Technical Services Staff

Dear Dr. Gottlieb:

~~This refers to the unclassified letter to you of this date referring to a "classified action", and signed by me.~~ I have personally reviewed the files from your office concerning the use of a drug on an unwitting group of individuals. In recommending the unwitting application of the drug to your superior, you apparently did not give sufficient emphasis to the necessity for medical collaboration and for proper consideration of the rights of the individual to whom it was being administered. This is to inform you that it is my opinion that you exercised poor judgment in this case.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

by ABK:nm 29 Jan 54
Rewritten - DDCI (CPCEB) nm 1 Feb. 54

SECRET



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Sidney Gottlieb
Chief, Chemical Division
Technical Services Staff

Dear Dr. Gottlieb:

I have personally reviewed the files from your office concerning a classified action which is identified in the files. In recommending the action to your superior, you did not, in my opinion exercise satisfactory judgment in the case.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

cc: Personnel Office
Security Office

by LBI:am 29 Jan 54
re-written/00CI/LPChell mm - 1 Feb 54

SECRET



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Sidney Gottlieb
Chief, Chemical Division
Technical Services Staff

Dear Dr. Gottlieb:

I have personally reviewed the files from your office concerning the use of a drug on an unwitting group of individuals. ~~There is evidence in your files that indicates the necessity for the use of this drug with caution on persons of nervous temperament. Apparently in recommending the unwitting application of the drug to your superior you either did not give sufficient~~ *emphasis* ~~weight to this evidence or chose to overlook it. In any event, this is to inform you that it is my opinion that you exercised very poor judgment in this case.~~

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

This refers to the unclassified letter to you of this date referring to a "classified action", and signed by me.

by *DBK:nm* 29 Jan. 54

SECRET

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Y

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Sidney Gottlieb
Chief, Chemical Division
Technical Services Staff

Dear Dr. Gottlieb:

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the action
I have personally reviewed the files from your office concerning ~~an experiment~~ which is identified in the files. Apparently in recommending this ~~experiment~~ to your superior you ~~either did not give sufficient weight to evidence in the files or chose to overlook it.~~ In any event, this is to inform you that it is my opinion that you exercised ~~very~~ *poor* judgment in this case.

you did not in Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

cc: Security Office ✓
Personnel Office

*{ Sanitized
← for*

By L31K1NM 29 Jan 54

SECRET

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dr. Sidney Gottlieb
Chief, Chemical Division
Technical Services Staff

Dear Dr. Gottlieb:

I have personally reviewed the files from your office concerning the use of a drug on an unwitting group of individuals. There is evidence in your files that indicates the necessity for the use of this drug with caution on persons of nervous temperament. Apparently in recommending the unwitting application of the drug to your superior you either did not give sufficient weight to this evidence or chose to overlook it. In any event, this is to inform you that it is my opinion that you exercised very poor judgment in this case.

Sincerely,

Allen W. Dulles
Director

cc: Security Office (to Col. Edwards for "Special Handling")

SECRET

66

AFFIDAVIT

Donald F. Chamberlain, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

1. I am Inspector General of the Central Intelligence Agency. I am the senior official responsible for the internal inspection function of the Central Intelligence Agency. I have held this office during the time of the record search and review specified in the following paragraphs and have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein.

2. I have caused a search to be made among all CIA components reasonably thought to possess relevant records which deal with, pertain to or otherwise relate to LSD experimentation undertaken by the CIA.

3. I have reviewed all documents located as a result of this search and have determined that the records which have been made available to representatives of the family of the late Frank R. Olson constitute each and every record relating to the death of Frank R. Olson and the events leading thereto; all records or memoranda relating in any form or manner to the investigation of the death of Frank R. Olson subsequent to that event; all records or memoranda relating in any form or manner concerning the participation in CIA LSD experimentation programs by Frank R. Olson; and all records or memoranda provided to executive branch and legislative branch investigative bodies relating to the death of Frank R. Olson or participation in LSD experimentation by Frank R. Olson. No documents of the nature described above have been knowingly withheld.

Donald F. Chamberlain
Donald F. Chamberlain

STATE OF VIRGINIA)
)
COUNTY OF FAIRFAX)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of August 1975.

Virginia C. Long
Notary Public

My commission expires 29 June 1979.